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Library Economy and Bibliography.

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Edw. G. Allen's American Library Agency,
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MEMBER AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

SPECIAL TERMS FOR LARGE ORDERS.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THE Boston Public Library and all who have to do with it are to be congratulated on the selection for the post of librarian of Mr. Herbert Putnam, who is one of the best examples among the younger men of the library calling as a profession. Mr. Putnam has hereditary fitness for the calling of a librarian, since his father, George Palmer Putnam, was not only one of the most literary among the American publishers of a generation ago who helped to found an American literature, but was also imbued most thoroughly with the altruistic spirit which is today a leading motive in the true librarian. In the Minneapolis Public Library Mr. Putnam made his mark as a working librarian, and since his retirement from that library he has had experience in another profession as a graduate of the Columbia Law School, which will be undoubtedly of benefit to him in broadening his views as he returns to the library field. The opportunity before him is magnificent, and there is every reason to believe that he will be worthy of the opportunity. We trust to see the Boston Public Library under his directorate and inspiration returning to its old prominence among American libraries. The new building is now open to the public and will, for the time, be the Mecca of American librarians. As the Library Conference of 1895 is to be held in the West, it may not be amiss to suggest that Boston, with a mountain or seaside annex, may, under the new circumstances, be a proper place of meeting for 1896.

IN his last report, dated December 6, 1894, but evidently postscripted later, Mr. John G. Ames makes his valedictory as superintendent of documents in the Interior department. The summary which he gives of his work in this field for the past 20 years is of interest, and every librarian has reason to confirm his statement that from the beginning he has regarded a public office as a public trust—long before that phrase became a popular catchword—and has sought to make his office in the largest measure helpful to officers of the Government, to Congress, to libraries, and to every interest with which the office had any established relations. In fact, the results of Mr. Ames' permanence in office and the good work he has been enabled to

do during his service are the best evidence of the real usefulness of what is ordinarily known as civil service reform. It is gratifying to note that Mr. Ames has in hand a new and enlarged edition of his "Check-list of Congressional and other documents," and of his "Finding-list," and also a new index giving a list of the principal speeches on important subjects of Congressmen from the 43d to the 52d Congress, as found in the *Congressional Record*, with a reference to votes. It is to be hoped that Mr. Ames, as superintendent of documents in the Government Printing Office under the new public documents law, may have opportunity to carry forward the work he has so successfully prosecuted for these many years.

WITH the change in the administration of public documents one subject again thrusts itself upon attention—the storage of the enormous mass of papers now rotting in the vaults of the capitol building. The subject has literally thrust itself upon the attention of members of Congress through their noses and through effect on their health, for it has been reported within the past month that the rotting of these documents and of the floors beneath them is becoming a serious menace to the healthfulness of the building in its inhabited parts. The Government Printing Office is a shambling and dangerous building, already strained too close to its factor of safety, and provision for a better building has been prevented from year to year by unseemly real-estate wrangles which have had their effect in Congress. There is one suggestion of remedy which we think should be heard—the possibility of utilizing, and at once, a part of the new Congressional Library for this purpose of sorting out, reorganizing, disposing of rubbish and storing the remainder of public documents for use. There will be ample room in the new edifice for this purpose, and within a few years the existing mass of documents and records will have been sorted and sifted out and a great proportion of it disposed of as useless. We commend this suggestion to the authorities for their consideration, although it may be distasteful to Librarian Spofford and Engineer Green to consider so base a use as they might think it for even the basement of their fine new building.

THE giving of libraries has become an ordinary thing nowadays, and hardly a week passes in which some city or town does not become the happy possessor of a pretty and suitable library building, the gift of some wealthy friend or fellow-townsmen. It is rare when such gifts are not appreciated; rarer still is it for the giver to withdraw the gift "for cause." Yet this has been the unfortunate result of the gift of a memorial library to Ansonia, Ct. The library was erected, equipped, and presented to the town by Miss Caroline Phelps Stokes in 1892, as a memorial to her grandfather, Anson G. Phelps, the founder of Ansonia. It is a handsome building, well equipped, and stocked with several thousand books, representing a total cost of some \$60,000 — certainly a most welcome addition to any town. Yet after two years of bickering and wrangling on the part of the local authorities, the incensed and disappointed giver has withdrawn the gift, and the library is closed, it is said permanently. There seems little question that the onus of responsibility for this regrettable event rests with the town officials. They appear to have regarded the library as a new factor in local politics, to be "worked for all it was worth." It was taxed to the limit, and the taxes were energetically and promptly collected; but the proverbial last straw came when the authorities appointed one of their political protégés as librarian, fixed his salary to suit themselves and applied to Miss Stokes for its payment. The lack of public spirit and appreciation displayed throughout seems to have been deplorable. The authorities, on their side, plead burdensome restrictions, irritating regulations, and an undue expense for maintenance. Ansonia might be a good place for some of the energetic missionaries of the A. L. A. to start a library revival, in the hope of awakening recognition and appreciation of the use, benefit, and educational influence of a good library. When such a revival is effected, the next step would be the reopening of the library and the consignment of past mistakes to a kindly oblivion.

THE reform wave that recently swept over the city of New York has not, it seems, included the city library within its cleansing flood. Few New Yorkers know that the city possesses a library, save when an incoming administration brings the usual rush of would-be office-holders; but for years the library has had a torpid existence in one of the rooms of the city hall. For years, too, the post of librarian has been

one of the "soft snaps" appertaining to the faithful henchmen of "the party." The library itself is rather a sorry affair. It contained the nucleus of a good collection, but many of the books have been carried off from time to time, and the room has generally served as a lounging-place for city hall politicians. In 1893 an incumbent who, it is said, could neither read nor write, was succeeded by a journalist who was energetic, intelligent, and appreciative of what the library should be. Mr. Curtis set himself the task of reorganizing, arranging, and improving, and he put the library in better shape, with promise of future improvement. It was thought that he would be continued in office and that the library might in time become a credit to the city. But the new Board of Aldermen thought otherwise. The \$1000 "berth" was bestowed upon a tailor who possessed a potent "pull," and the library, it may be assumed, is relegated to its former condition of dust and desuetude. It is really unnecessary to comment upon this episode; but as an object-lesson in the workings of "practical politics" it is not to be despised. We can only give thanks that public sentiment is really awakening in such matters, and trust that in time the clutches of the boss will be loosed from all state and municipal libraries, as well as from the other public offices that have so long been his prey.

Communications.

DO LIBRARIES AID IN ART EDUCATION?

ARE there any libraries that have made a systematic attempt to educate the public in an appreciation of art, as shown in the illustrated press generally? I understand that a few libraries have cut artistic illustrations from magazines, etc., afterwards mounting and classifying them. I would like to know of libraries that do this, and if there are any that go further by calling attention to the artistic features of each print.

CHAS. M. CARTER,
President Art Department, N. E. A.

CARDS FOR THE "TWO-BOOK" SYSTEM.

I NOTICE that the libraries that issue two books, one not fiction, adopt two different methods. Some give the reader a second, non-fiction card, and others use a card having two divisions. I should like to learn which method has proved the more satisfactory. Will the librarians who have experience in this line give me some light on the question, either through the L. J. or by a note to my address?

GARDNER M. JONES.

1 SALEM, MASS.,
1 PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ADAPTATION OF LIBRARIES TO LOCAL NEEDS.*

By A. L. PECK, *Librarian Gloversville (N. Y.) Public Library.*

ADAPTATION to environment is undoubtedly one of nature's great laws which is found verified in all conditions of life, in all spheres of human activity and enterprise. The fittest only survives by strict obedience to this law of adaptation and the great struggle for existence becomes comparatively easy by quick and careful adaptation to circumstances, to individual, to local needs.

Starting from these premises, it must be conceded that libraries, in order to prosper, indeed in order to justify their existence, must fulfil the purpose for which they are maintained, and can only do so by adapting themselves to local needs.

I am even inclined to go a step further and maintain that wherever there is a struggling, languishing library it has become so by not complying with this principle of adaptation to local needs, neither have I any doubt but that by careful and painstaking efforts many of these institutions might be resuscitated and become not only useful but actually necessary, yea, indispensable, to their respective localities.

I am fully aware that there is no "royal road" to this "adaptation to local needs," and that each institution must work out its "own salvation with fear and trembling." I do also believe, however, that there are a few general principles upon which all efforts to make a library useful and adapted to its own community can be based. These I shall attempt to indicate, and also submit for your kind consideration a concise report of the work in this direction as done by a few of the libraries of the state of New York.

Moral agencies: All of us agree that the library must be founded on strictly moral principles, not only excluding from its shelves every book of dubious character, but also by a painstaking and scrupulous selection of books that are pure and elevating.

In small localities, it is very important that the librarian and the directors of libraries should make an effort to interest themselves in the publications offered for sale by the local dealers. The library may be ever so carefully selected,

the librarian ever so faithful, but if the town is swamped by police news, penny dreadfuls, and all the so-called "black literature," the good work of the library will not only be hindered, but constantly counteracted. For this reason I would suggest to every librarian: make yourself acquainted with your local dealer or dealers, and by befriending them, make them understand that it will be to their interest to co-operate with the library in its effort to supply nothing but the best and purest literature.

If, actuated by what may be called "inborn depravity," your local dealer should not be willing to co-operate with the library, then insist that he complies with the statutory enactment, Chapter 380, of the laws of New York of 1884, for this will tend to restrict the evil.

Educational agencies: There is no part of library work more productive of usefulness and general appreciation than that done by the library as an educational institution.

The co-operation of library and school has been so ably discussed, and so much valuable material is available in the volumes of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, that I simply mention this valuable means of adaptation to local needs.

However, I would like to call attention to the fact, that in order to co-operate with the schools, the library must *directly* aid and supplement the teachers' work. To do this it will be necessary for the librarian to make himself thoroughly acquainted with the curriculum of the school, from the kindergarten to the high school.

The superintendent or principal will always be ready to supply the library with a copy of the course of study. As soon as the teachers understand that the librarian is willing and able to aid them in their work, they will not hesitate to make their wants known, and gladly furnish full information regarding their school programs.

The librarian must know the requirements and needs of each grade. In places where the schools are subject to the visitation of the Regents of the University, it will be found of great advantage for the librarian to make himself fully conversant with the syllabus and circular of special topics published by the authorities. Bring together all the material the library con-

* Read at joint meeting of N. Y. Library Association and N. Y. Library Club, Jan. 10-12, 1895.

tains for this work, and send word to the school that the books for this special work are ready for the use of teachers and students. The next step is comparatively easy: at every purchase of books the library adds some—a few—helpful for this work, and as the library grows, its efficiency in this direction will grow and improve.

Occasional visits to the schools, attendance at teachers' meetings, talks before teachers' associations and teachers' institutes will make the librarian familiar with the needs of teachers and pupils and enable him to make the library better adapted to the local needs.

Whether it is the function of the public library to furnish a sufficient number of copies for supplementary reading in class rooms must be decided by the local authorities. In my opinion it would be better for the school-board to provide all such books as are strictly supplementary readers, and to conform with the Commons school library act, Chapter 573, laws of New York, 1892, Chapter 556, Section 13, 1894.

I find it advisable, not only to co-operate with the secular schools, but also with the Sunday-schools. In fact, my own experience has taught me that in small places it is advantageous that there should be but *one* library. The secular reading generally supplied by the Sunday-schools should be furnished by the public library, where a greater collection of carefully selected books is available. There also should be in every library a biblical and ethical department. The books in this department must by no means be denominational or sectarian in character. A good Bible commentary, a Bible dictionary, a concordance, a history of every creed, denomination or sect represented in the respective locality, books of travel and exploration in Bible lands, should be owned by every well-established library.

Secure the co-operation of every teacher and clergyman in your locality and enlist their influence in behalf of your library. The teacher will aid in guiding the children to proper and helpful reading matter, and through the children you will plant a library rootlet in every home. The clergy can aid you in moulding public opinion in favor of your library.

Make your library the central point of attraction to every literary society, study class, debating club and University Extension class. Should there be a place without these valuable agencies for self-improvement, then organize classes of this kind in the library.

As often as programs for these classes are made up it is of great importance that the librarian examine his collection and make up deficiencies as fast as possible, so as to enable the library to furnish the books needed.

Whenever the local collection of books is not sufficient the librarian should not hesitate to obtain aid from the state library.

The citizens of the Empire state have reason to take a just pride in their state library, which has really become the great public library of the state. It is able and ready to aid every one and to meet all just demands.

If more than one copy of any one book or a number of works on any stated subject are wanted, the respective library, literary club, or circle should register with the Regents of the University and secure one or more travelling libraries.

This will serve a double purpose: the library will be able to supply a temporary need and also make its patrons acquainted with the fact that the state has recognized libraries as educational institutions and is ready to aid those libraries that will make an effort for themselves and be useful to their communities.

Local industries and enterprises: It is proper that every library should collect books and pamphlets that bear relation to local industries and pursuits. In farming regions, publications relating to agriculture should be provided; in manufacturing towns, especial attention will have to be given to literature relating to each particular branch of industry.

Prompt notice in the local newspapers should be given as soon as new publications of this kind are received. I find that public documents, like the reports of the United States consuls, contain considerable valuable information of interest to manufacturers.

The reports of the Bureau of Statistics and Labor, the Board of Mediation and Arbitration of the State of New York, as well as the reports of the United States Commissioner of Labor, will be found of great value in making the library useful to employer as well as to employee.

The librarian should be wide-awake to the needs of the workshop in exactly the same way as he endeavors to aid the school. Every library should contain books on the relation of capital and labor, employer and employee, profit-sharing, strikes, shop-councils and arbitration.

It is of vital importance to every community that its working population should be interested

in the proper use of its library. Attention should also be given, to interest the working-men in the classes for mutual improvement, especially in classes in United States history, civics and political economy. Many a boy or girl, man or woman, will be found anxious to avail him or herself of every occasion for making up deficiencies of early school training, and grasp eagerly every opportunity for intellectual development and improvement.

Not only the established local industries should find the books that bear relation to them, but every new enterprise also, should be carefully watched and information regarding it promptly supplied. If electric railroads are proposed to be constructed, or electric lighting introduced, the people will be interested in books on these topics. If road improvements or new pavements are contemplated, procure promptly books on these subjects. The library should always be ready to anticipate the wants of the day, and promptly meet the demands of the hour.

Material for local history: Another means of adapting the library to local needs, consists in the collection and preservation of material that will prove of great value to the future historian of the locality. Every library, no matter how small, should therefore preserve files of its local newspapers. Annual reports of local institutions, educational or charitable, the reports of the city or village officials, as well as directories and occasional sermons, lectures or addresses, should be procured and kept intact.

Books and pamphlets relating to the respective locality, as well as photographs and views, deserve the attention of the library, and a collection of all publications written by citizens of the place, whether present inhabitants or not, should be secured by and incorporated in the library.

In collecting ephemeral prints like handbills, programs and the like, good judgment will have to be exercised, or a great quantity of chaff will soon accumulate, the proper care of which will soon prove burdensome and expensive.

An occasional appeal to the citizens through a circular or the local press will often be rewarded by the acquisition of valuable material consisting of books or documents bearing upon the early history of the place.

There can be no doubt that the day will come when all the accumulated historical material will be found of great value and very useful, and the

work done by the library in collecting and preserving it, will be duly appreciated by the patrons of the library and the citizens in general.

Readers' wants: Each library must naturally adapt itself to the wants of its readers. While it is impossible to meet all demands, and "he who tries to please everybody will please nobody," an honest effort must be made to meet all just demands as far as the means of the library will permit and the general interest will require. The library ought to lead the taste of its patrons and not follow it, and the wishes of the public should be considered from this principle.

New and popular books should be furnished promptly and in sufficient number.

Books in foreign languages should be supplied wherever required; they will bring those to the library who do not understand English, and give to students of these languages additional facilities for self-improvement.

The publication of special lists of available books on timely topics, or reading lists for literary clubs, lists that will aid the work of teachers and pupils, will make a library not only popular but also adapted to local needs; and a liberal use of printer's ink will make the citizens acquainted with the fact that the library is wide-awake to the interests of the locality and meets the requirement of the day. The library that proves to be the people's bureau of information will quickly be recognized as an educational force in the community and will frequently befriend those who otherwise might stay away from the library or oppose it.

Children's reading: It is of vital importance to every community that its library should give most careful attention to the reading of the young. I refrain, however, from discussing this subject, and simply refer to Miss Stearns' excellent paper on "Reading for the young," read before the Lake Placid conference of the American Library Association and also to the series of annual reports on children's reading contained in the volumes of the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Every librarian should consider himself morally responsible for every book delivered to any patron, much more so if the patron be a child, and for this reason he will take the utmost pains to aid and guide the children in the selection of their reading-matter.

Personal influence: In small places the librarian's direct personal influence may aid the library in this adaptation to local needs and cir-

circumstances, and while what Miss West calls his "personal equation" may enter as a factor in his work, it is advisable for every librarian to remain the "unknown" quantity of that equation.

In connection with these general remarks, I thought it might be of interest to present briefly what is being done by some of the libraries of the state with regard to adaptation to local needs.

For this reason, I addressed circulars containing eight questions to 25 libraries, and having received replies from 18 institutions, I wish to make the following report:

The questions submitted are as follows, viz.:

1. Do you approve of the principle that the library should adapt itself to local needs? *i. e.*, in agricultural districts, would you supply books and periodicals on agriculture; in manufacturing districts, books and periodicals on the special industry of the locality, etc.

2. If opposed to this principle, please state reasons why.

3. In what manner do you adapt your library to the special needs of your locality?

4. Do you aid the schools?

5. Do you collect and preserve local ephemeral prints, like handbills, programs, pamphlets?

6. Do you preserve files of local papers?

7. Have you any special method by which you make your library valuable to your own locality?

8. How do you interest your citizens in your library?

From the replies the following facts are gathered:

Sixteen favor the adaptation to local needs, two seem to object.

Thirteen aid the schools.

Eight collect and preserve local pamphlets.

Nine preserve files of newspapers, local and otherwise.

Three claim special methods.

Six interest the citizens in their locality by notices in the local papers.

PRACTICAL LIBRARY-MOVING.

By C. R. GILLET, *Librarian of Union Theological Seminary.*

IN the November number of the LIBRARY JOURNAL there were several references to the problem which occasionally confronts the librarian, viz.: What is the best method of moving books from old to new quarters? Many men, many answers; and of course there are many ways in which it may be done, provided one has an unlimited corps of assistants and helpers. But that is not the case with all of us, and for the benefit of those who may be in my own case, I would like to set down some of the results at which I arrived. For such, the question is complicated by the item of expense, and the problem takes this form: How can removal be effected most cheaply, consistent with convenience and safety? The individual carrier with an armful of books, and the box closely packed and fastened, represent perhaps the extremes, and they are both exceedingly expensive, troublesome and slow. Books so treated are also exposed to special dangers, and from experience I do not think that the percentage of damage is any less after all this trouble has been taken than according to the system which I have adopted.

The question which is fundamental to the whole problem is this: What is the unit to be

handled, and what unit is most convenient, expeditious and safe? Usually the single volume is treated as the unit, but thereby the complexity and detail of the task is vastly multiplied. This, if one carries the matter back far enough, is the system actually adopted when books are boxed for removal. To be sure, the aim in boxing is the preservation of the volumes from loss and harm, but when the boxes are unpacked the treatment of the books and the replacing of them on the shelves is the treatment and the replacing of the individual book, for boxes and shelves cannot be made convertible terms without great waste of time, strength and room. Convenience in handling is thus sacrificed to supposed safety, and with it comes multitudinous and useless detail.

It makes no difference how a library is classified—the classification furnishes the clue to the order of the units which compose the entire collection, whether the book or a number of books constitute that unit. Given a classification or a fixed order, and the sequence of the units takes care of itself. The primary arrangement in the new quarters must correspond with that in the old for obvious reasons, but principally to avoid confusion. The problem is to

transfer the classification unchanged and to make changes and adaptations to a new environment later.

Having had considerable experience in the moving of collections of books, I may be allowed to give my conclusions. On the first occasion, some ten years ago, I had on my hands a collection of 60,000 volumes which were to be removed from the old building of Union Theological Seminary at 9 University Place (just below 8th st., New York) to 700 Park ave., between 69th and 70th sts., a distance of between three and four miles. Later I moved the library of the San Francisco Theological Seminary from San Francisco to San Anselmo, a distance of upwards of 20 miles, partly by wagon, partly by boat, and partly by rail. In each case the same plan was followed with entirely satisfactory results. The same plan has since been adopted by the librarian of the University of the City of New York in transferring his books from Washington Square to University Heights, a distance of ten or twelve miles. No boxes were used, and during the process of removal any book was available except during the period while the books were on the cart in actual transit. Wagons with good strong springs were used and as many as a *ton* (in some cases nearly *two tons*) of books went to a single load. One of these libraries was numbered by shelves and in the other there was only a sequence of volumes under the larger rubrics of the classification (the classification was not completed at the time of removal). The unit was not the single book, but an aggregation of books which made a pile of books of a given size. Usually a shelf-ful made two units, and each was tied in a bundle and marked with its appropriate number which indicated the place whence it came, its relative position in the classification and its destination in the new

quarters. The cords used were of thick, soft jute, and only in rare cases did they damage the bindings or leave any trace of their presence. Care in the selection of the *end* books contributed, of course, to this result. Where greater care was required, paper was used to cover corners and edges, so that as a final result it may be said that damage of the slightest sort was not done to more than one book in 500. The 60,000 volumes in New York were prepared for removal, moved over three miles and set up in place ready for use, by *four* assistants in thirty days. The 15,000 in San Francisco were prepared and moved by *two* assistants in a week and a half.

My experience points to this system as economical, expeditious, safe and satisfactory. The immense labor of packing boxes is avoided and the amount of actual damage done is no greater than in the case of boxed books. The strings are arranged with a fixed loop at one end so that they can be used over and over again. The bundle became the unit and could be handled with ease and safety. A paper slip bearing the classification number directed the bundle to its appropriate place, and if the cord was not removed till the final location had been settled, the transfer of a package was much facilitated. The cords cost less than boxes and could be used with greater speed. And when the cost of removal was counted up, it was much less than it would have been under any other system. Actual risk of damage was incurred only when the books were in the cart and in transit. It then arose only from the jolting of the vehicle over rough stone pavements, but was obviated by the use of an abundance of heavy cloths and blankets. Care had to be observed in packing the bundles, but this is an easier task than might appear at first sight, and I did most of it myself.

COMBINATION ORDER AND SHELF-LIST SLIP.

BY WILLARD H. AUSTIN, *Reference Librarian Cornell University.*

EVERY library, large or small, must determine for itself the character and the number of the records it should keep. A charging system may range all the way from a single entry to three and four, according as it is found necessary to be able to determine certain facts about any book not in its place on the shelves. Although

there is a certain range in the matter of record-keeping, all who have ever had the supervision of a library that makes any claim for order and system, are agreed that there are certain fundamentals which cannot well be omitted in any case. These include, as is well known, the accession book, the shelf-list, the order-list, the

catalog and charging system. In a small library, where one person, or at most two, must do all the work, the question of the number of records to be made is a serious matter. It is for such cases that I wish to outline a device which I have put into operation in a small library over which I assumed supervision, and which works very sat-

isfactorily. So excellent does it prove that I think it a pity not to give others the benefit of the idea.

It may be called a combination order and shelf-list slip, and its name explains its uses. I insert here a model form, which may be varied from to suit particular cases, but which will serve to illustrate what I have in mind:

914.4 H17 A5890	SOUTHWORTH LIBRARY, DRYDEN, N. Y.	
<i>Ordered 23/1/95</i> <i>Received 19/2/95</i>	<i>Author</i> Hamerton, P. G.	<i>Title</i> French and English
	<i>Place</i> _____ <i>Date</i> 1891	<i>Publisher</i> Roberts <i>Price</i> \$2.
	<i>Recommended by</i> W. H. Austin	

As will be readily seen, its first use is as an order-slip to be filled out by the librarian or others, from time to time, and together the slips form an order-list, from which titles may be selected, according to the amount of funds available at any one time of ordering. After being copied on the order-sheet to be sent away, the slips are dated and filed away, designated as "Orders out." When the books arrive the corresponding order-slip for each one is again dated, to show when the book was received, the price corrected by the invoice — if the actual cost differs from the list price — and each slip inserted between the leaves of the volume. When the volume is given its accession number, the slip receives the same number. In the same manner the slip receives the class and book numbers given to the volume, and the record is complete. Up to this time no shelf-list entry as such has been made, but this order-slip, with the full information which it now gives, is itself the shelf-list entry, and is more complete than many librarians would justify themselves in taking the time to make for a shelf-list alone. Another, and temporary, use to which these slips may be put before being permanently filed in

the shelf-list, is to serve as a list of new books, for which purpose they may be arranged in one alphabet or classed. This is one reason for making the slips the same size as the small index card, that they may be put in some unused portion of the catalog case, where they can be consulted by borrowers in search of "new books." Here they are kept until the next invoice arrives, when they are put permanently into the shelf-list. They should be punched and fastened in with a rod to prevent their misplacement, while they serve as a new-book list as well as when they form the permanent shelf-list.

Nothing further need be said. It is evident that a library by means of this slip has all the advantages of an order-slip and a shelf-list, with only the labor necessary to make either record separately. A shelf-list in this form needs never to be rewritten, is quite as convenient for taking inventory, if two persons are available for the work, as the sheet shelf-list. It forms a classed catalog, in form like the dictionary catalog used by the public, which may always be at hand for the use of the librarian, or others, to get at the literature of any subject.

THE CLERKENWELL OPEN LENDING LIBRARY.*

James D. Brown, in the Library.

SOME interest having been expressed in the experiment of throwing open the lending library book-shelves at Clerkenwell to enable readers to examine and choose books for themselves, it is proposed, in compliance with many requests, to briefly describe the method. In doing this attention shall be directed chiefly to a description of its organization and working, with the results so far as they have been observed in Clerkenwell. . . .

When the work of changing the system was seriously confronted, several troublesome problems presented themselves. Among them were these: our space was very small; our book-shelves too high and too deep; the light was badly distributed; and our stock was not fresh. Then, difficulties cropped up connected with the classification and arrangement of books on the shelves, and the invention of a suitable charging system, not to mention minor matters; but a little study overcame them all, and the methods now about to be described are the result.

We had accumulated a number of heavy and bulky works of more or less value from the source of donation, and as space was very limited, it became necessary to remove these to the reference department, especially as it was found that many of them had never been asked for during the five years of the library's life. This was the first thing done, and is an act of policy likely to be repeated in Clerkenwell because of the small amount of space, and in order that the library may be maintained in a thoroughly up-to-date condition. Probably the pruning process will take place every five years, or when the general catalog is reprinted. The next step was to write cards for every book in the library for use in the charging system. These are manilla slips, measuring five by two inches, ruled on both sides, for two columns of readers' numbers and dates of issue, and are kept in narrow trays in lots of 1000 in strict numerical order. Simultaneously the work of rewriting the borrowers' cards was carried on. These are exactly the same as the book cards, but one inch shorter, and they are kept in alphabetical order of borrowers' surnames. Most of this work was done before the actual closing of the library, and in addition, the various circulars and other forms were drawn up and circulated. Every reader, on returning his or her book before the closing of the library, was furnished with a "ticket voucher" bearing the ticket number only, to prove *bona fides* at the reopening, and a copy of the descriptive circular. Everything being thus ready, the library was closed, and the bookcases were altered and respaced at once, to enable the staff to arrange the books. This rearrangement of bookcases enables the assistants to completely over-

look every passage, and so control the movements of readers among the books. The staff enclosure, from which the bookcases slightly radiate, was also formed from the materials of the old counter, and with the screen, locking wickets, charging system, new gas fittings, etc., cost about £50.

The books are classified much as they had been before, the main classes and their divisions of specific subjects being kept together. Fiction, books for young readers and poetry are arranged in separate alphabets of authors' surnames, with alphabetical initial guides on every shelf to show where any letter commences or ends. All other main classes are divided and arranged according to subjects, and these are shown on japanned steel shelf-labels bearing subject words in white letters. In addition, every press bears a large classification label on the cornice above the books, and on its end as well, so that the reader in search of any particular class can see at once where it is placed. Thus, a division headed "FICTION A to H," contains novelists from Edmond About to Thomas Hardy, each shelf having a letter label A, B, C, D, or whatever the author's initial may be; while the division headed "BIOGRAPHY" is divided according to subjects, by means of the metal labels aforesaid — "Actors," "Artists," "Authors," "Musicians," "Monarchs," "Statesmen," etc., each being kept in alphabetical order, according to subject of biography, *e. g.*, all separate lives of Goethe, Wellington, Gladstone, or Queen Victoria will be found together. The same principle is carried right through every class, save in very small subjects or groups of subjects, when alphabetization is not attempted. To minimize the difficulty of detecting misplacements every shelf has its books labelled a different color, and opposing bookcases, having different classes, are further distinguished by having differently shaped labels. Nine shelf colors, and six class shapes are used, and the whole of the shapes are made from one square form by division, cross-cutting, etc. We are rather troubled by our book-labels peeling off, and should be glad to learn of any paste or glue which will stick thin labels firmly in place. In addition, each shelf is numbered, and its number is carried on to the label on the backs of the books, as well as on to the label inside the books. The bookcases being too high, it was necessary to stop out two shelves in each tier, and rearrange and compress the remaining nine shelves so that the bottom one should not be close to the floor, while the top one should be within easy seeing and reaching distance by means of 18-inch steps. These, then, were the principal structural alterations made necessary by the change.

The charging system is very simple and will be easily comprehended by a brief description of the operation of first issuing a book to a new reader and discharging it on return. When the applicant presents himself at the barrier he finds that he cannot walk right into the library, as he may have supposed, on account of a wicket which is locked. He next finds, on giving his "ticket-voucher" to the assistant, that it was a very good thing he was not trying to personate some

* Read at Belfast meeting of the L. A. U. K., Sept., 1894. Printed in the *Library*, Nov., 1894. See Mr. Brown's article in Jan. L. J.

one else in order to get free access to the library, because he has to give his proper name, and the assistant makes sure that the number on the "ticket-voucher" agrees with that on the actual reader's card, which was made out from the voucher form and is now taken from the alphabetical sequence already mentioned. Having made certain that the reader is entitled to borrow, that his umbrella and hand-bag are taken in return for numbered tokens, and that his dog, bicycle and three companions remain outside, the assistant presses with his foot a small lever which draws back the spring bolt which locks the wicket, and the reader, empty-handed and alone, passes into the library; the wicket immediately shutting and locking again. These precautions are taken, not out of distrust of the readers, but for their convenience, registration purposes, and to save the public property from all danger of being looted by casual thieves. The assistant then goes to a little alphabetical rack on the charging side, and pops the reader's card into the small pigeon-hole lettered B—as we will assume the reader's name is Brown—destroys the now useless ticket-voucher, and is at liberty to attend on some one else, or perhaps to assist Brown, to whom the arrangement is new. However, to obviate the trouble of too much personally conducting our readers, which some resent, and to instruct them in elementary classification and the art of finding books for themselves, a little "Reader's shelf-guide" is provided, which directs to the principal authors and subjects on the numbered shelves. Most of the readers very soon grasp the plan of arrangement, and when the few slow ones fail, the librarian or his assistants are always at hand to instruct and help.

With the aid of the printed "shelf-guide" and the plainer guides on the shelves themselves, Brown selects a book which, for convenience sake, we shall say is "Hopkinson on the Indicator," no. 5010. He then, forgetting his umbrella and hand-bag, and with the "Indicator" under his arm, proceeds to the exit wicket, in order to quickly rejoin his dog and three friends. But he finds that the wicket is locked and that an assistant is demanding his name and book for registration purposes. On his giving up both, the assistant then selects Brown's card from the rack, and the book-card, 5010, from the proper tray, places both cards in a small loose pocket, and then in a numerical rack, stamps the book with the date of issue, and allows Brown to pass out, after returning his umbrella and hand-bag. This takes a long time to describe, but in actual practice is extremely rapid—any ordinary assistant being able to pass from 120 to 150 readers in one hour; that is, at the charging desk, with another assistant presiding at the discharging side. Two quick, accurate assistants can pass in and out 200 readers in one hour without being very sorely put about. One quick assistant at Clerkenwell, on several occasions when the staff was short-handed, has marked off and charged 55 books in 25 minutes, including the taking of fines, etc., and assistance rendered to

inquirers. But this is a small point, and only mentioned to make clear that business is accomplished in much "less time than it takes to tell." At intervals, throughout the day, the book and reader cards are taken from the rough numerical order in the rack where we left them, and carefully sorted, the book-numbers being carried on to the readers' cards, and the readers' numbers and dates on to the book cards. This is not absolutely necessary, as the junction of the two is quite sufficient to make a full charge, but for the sake of permanency of record we prefer to show both sides of every transaction in this way. When the day is done the cards representing issues, now arranged in strict numerical order with projecting guides at every thousand, are carefully counted by classes and placed in a tray which bears the date of issue on a metal projection. There they remain till the books represented are returned. Brown took the "Indicator" book out on the 1st of May, and returned it on the 12th. He, as before, goes to the entrance barrier where the assistant takes the book from him, turns up the date, May 1st, proceeds to that tray and removes the number, 5010, which is in the pocket along with the reader's card. The book is then placed on the counter available for reissue or replacement by the staff; the reader's card and pocket put back in the pigeon-hole, letter B, the book-card placed at the back of the 5000 tray, to be properly filed at leisure, and Brown is again permitted to pass the wicket. The card-charging system which we have adopted enables us to say whether or not a book is out, or if any given reader has a book out. It also enables us to detect overdues automatically. There is no reason why a condensed and slightly modified indicator should not be used as the charging method by those who prefer it.

These, then, are the main lines on which the Clerkenwell Open Library are worked, and it now only remains to summarize the drawbacks and advantages which a short experience has taught us are elements in the working of the system, which may be modified or intensified as time goes on.

First, as to the drawbacks; which must be distinctly understood to refer to the Clerkenwell Library alone, and not to the system in its ideal working. These nearly all arise from the conversion of unsuitable fittings and inadequate space to purposes for which they were never intended. Our book-shelves being too high, bring about the necessity for short, obstructive foot-stools, which, in their turn, combine with the narrow parts of the passages to cause an occasional tendency to crowd at these points in the evenings. The fact that two of the passages form blind alleys, and all the others are too narrow, also helps to increase this tendency. Our shelves, being nine inches deep instead of only six and a half or seven, cause the occasional pushing behind of little volumes; but this is not a frequent occurrence. The height and arrangement of the bookcases make our light rather bad through the day, but, on the other hand, oversight is practically perfect. The

temporary misplacement of books occurs chiefly in the presses devoted to prose fiction and juvenile literature. In other classes it occurs to such a small extent as to be unworthy of notice; but when a book is misplaced it is never farther off, as a rule, than the shelf above or below, and is instantly detected by the color label. In fiction and juvenile literature the misplacements are more frequent, though seldom more serious than authors whose names begin B1 being found among those beginning B0. This is a small matter in reality, owing to so many books being out, and among the hundreds of readers who have been questioned or have written on the point, not one will admit that misplacement presents a difficulty of any great moment. Nevertheless, it exists temporarily to the extent indicated, but a permanent misplacement likely to cause trouble is almost an impossibility, for several reasons. The assistants are continually among the shelves tidying them up and assisting readers, and as it does not take more than ten minutes for one to scan every press and put everything to rights, it will be seen that the discovery of a misplacement is inevitable. Besides this, the method of continuous stock-taking and morning checking leaves very little chance for a misplaced book to remain long out of its right position. On the whole, we are disposed to class misplacement as a drawback of no great moment. The final possible drawback is that of thefts, and on this point nothing definite can be said till after more time has passed. We are now taking stock continually in this way. Each assistant is responsible for about 80 shelves, for which he or she is provided with a complete shelf-register. A certain number of shelves must be checked by each assistant every week, and the librarian notes the result in his special shelf-register, so that he can report to his commissioners monthly. The library will thus be overhauled several times a year without closing or loss of time, and the commissioners will be kept informed of losses as they occur. Up to August 31, 4500 volumes had been checked in this way, with the result that no volumes were missing. Owing to certain economies likely to be effected and referred to later among the advantages of the system, it is very improbable that the losses will ever be so serious as to outweigh the valuable advantages to the public, or even the saving which can be made on various items. . . .

Coming to the advantages of the system, it is difficult to fix on any salient points among so many which claim prominence. The enormous benefit to the readers of direct contact with the books; the power given of examination and comparison; the educational value of permitting readers to go about in even a roughly classified library; and the rapidity with which ordinary readers can suit themselves, are all advantages about which there can hardly be a difference of opinion. Perhaps the phrase of one of the readers will best convey the general outside view of the change: "It is just the difference between a lottery and a certainty." The previous method of issuing books at Clerkenwell was somewhat hampered with this defect; read-

ers did not always get *exactly* what they wanted or what pleased them, but only what they thought would please them. It is absolutely impossible to tell from a catalog entry what a book is about, while on the other hand a very cursory glance over the pages of a book will enable a reader to decide with certainty, and to make a selection which will prove satisfactory. As a great majority of public library readers are hard-working people who read mostly for recreation, it is of some importance to them that their time is not wasted withdrawing books altogether unsuitable, and not changeable till the following day. So it is with the student or reader for information. Not one catalog in a hundred makes the slightest attempt to discriminate between what is good and what is indifferent, what is out-of-date and up-to-date on any subject, so that the power of examination to such persons is absolutely necessary if they are to make the best educational use of the library. The browsing habit has not been developed as yet in Clerkenwell, nor will it be encouraged because of our limited space, but there can hardly be a doubt that the casual dipping into books of various kinds has some value in the spread of information. Although we have given every opportunity for readers to express their opinions on the system, so far nothing unfavorable has been brought forward; every one who has been asked or who has written having expressed nothing but appreciation of the system and the hope that it may always be continued. Even the few grumblers who have found fault because they were unable at times to get particular books make haste to declare that they have no desire for a return to the old system. It thus appears that the persons most concerned in the use and maintenance of the library are those who are most anxious for the continuance of the open system. This being so, it is hard to resist the conclusion that if those who maintain the library demand that it shall be worked in the manner which best suits their convenience and wishes, there is no alternative but submission to the public will. It may therefore be allowed that, from the important point of view of the public, there can be no question as to the advantage of the open system. The advantages from the staff point of view we shall briefly summarize as follows:

(1) Economies will be effected in the staff, leading to the employment of fewer, but better educated assistants, who will be able to render the greatest service to readers. The larger the library the fewer assistants will be wanted in proportion.

(2) Elaborate cataloging will no longer be necessary, as the labor now spent in making costly inventories will be available for properly indexing the *contents* of the books in the library.

(3) The librarian and his staff being largely freed from the drudgery of finding books, and the loss of time arising in consequence, are able to devote more attention to the needs of borrowers, and to assist them in ways formerly found impossible. Incidentally it may be noted that junior assistants are enabled to learn rather more

about the books in the library and their class relationships than before.

(4) The constant and close contact of the borrowers with the books and intelligent assistants will no doubt gradually induce a superior class of reading; or, at least, will tend to direct mere pastime reading into higher channels.

(5) The freedom and absence of formality connected with the open library attracts readers, and tends to popularize the library itself.

There are many other points connected with the Clerkenwell Open Library which are worthy of attention, but we are not here as advocates of the system, and prefer to let library managers and librarians draw their own conclusions from what has been described, and from the literature which has been distributed. As far as the experiment has been tried, the commissioners and people of Clerkenwell have every reason to be thoroughly satisfied, and as time goes on and methods are improved, we are not too sanguine in assuming that the library will become an engine of the utmost efficiency in promoting the educational and recreative pursuits of the public. What has already been done in Clerkenwell is full of promise for the future; what remains to be done must certainly result in the attainment of a higher and closer relationship between the people and one of their own institutions than has yet been found possible.

A PROPER STANDARD FOR PUBLIC LIBRARIES.

THE Public Libraries department of the New York State Library has issued the following circular:]

The University law of 1892 authorizes the payment of local subsidies to libraries registered by the regents as maintaining a proper library standard, and directs the apportionment of public library money under regents' rules.

While the approval of any library must depend on the report of the official inspector, the following statement is issued to direct attention to the points likely to come under review.

Free public libraries to be registered by the University as maintaining a proper standard must meet the following requirements.

1. Each library must be in charge of trustees duly incorporated under state law, or must belong to an institution in the University.

2. The selection of books as a whole must be approved for literary merit and educational value, and as representing in due proportion the different classes of literature and as adapted to the wants of the community.

3. Provision for support must be sufficient for frequent addition of new books as well as to meet other current expenses.

4. The library must be open at a fixed time and in charge of a competent attendant at least one hour on three days of each week; in villages of 2,000 or more inhabitants it must be open at least two hours daily for not less than six days of each week; and in villages or cities of 10,000 or more inhabitants it must be open at least six hours daily.

To be counted as public, a college or academy

library must be open at least six hours daily while classes are in session, and in vacation must be open at least one hour on each of three days of each week.

These rules do not require any library to be kept open on legal holidays or Sundays.

In special circumstances connected with starting or reorganizing a library, on approval of the regents, the requirements as to hours of opening may be modified till the library is more firmly established.

5. An accession book must be kept in which shall be recorded the date of accession, the author, title and cost of each book added. There must be besides some suitable catalog for readers, which may be either an author index, a shelf-list or a subject catalog.

6. Books must be arranged on the shelves by some well-considered system that will group subjects by themselves and place books in order in each subject. The character of the classification will depend on the size of the library and local conditions.

7. The loan system in use must provide (a) that every book lent be charged to its borrower, with the date of borrowing; (b) that the circulation of each day be recorded, with a separate statement of the number of volumes of fiction lent.

The above simple rules of business management are deemed essential to the security and usefulness of the books in any public library, and, if carefully observed, will be a guarantee to the public that the libraries are rendering valuable service in return for the aid given.

OPENING OF THE BOSTON PUBLIC LIBRARY.

ON January 31, between 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., the new Boston Public Library building was thrown open for inspection by the members of the city government, the heads of city departments, and ex-mayors. On February 1, at 10 a.m., the building was opened to the general public. The absolute simplicity and lack of formality that characterized the event came as a surprise to many who had thought that there must be some kind of dedicatory exercise or public demonstration in recognition of the completion of the finest library building in the United States. During the first week in February—Sunday included—the library was open for inspection; at the end of this "exhibition week" the regular work of delivering and receiving books was begun and the library was fairly settled in its Copley Square palace. On the day of the public opening an immense throng was gathered waiting admission long before the opening hour; and all day an ever-increasing stream of interested and appreciative visitors examined and admired the beauties of the building. An efficient corps of attendants were in readiness for the people and pointed out the novelties and improvements, among which the pneumatic tubes and railways and elevators for books attracted intense interest. It was estimated that at least 10,000 persons visited the building the first day, of whom the greater number were women.

A STATE LIBRARY COMMISSION FOR VERMONT.

At the present session of the Vermont legislature a bill providing for state aid to libraries, similar to those in force in Massachusetts and New Hampshire, was introduced by Senator Hazen, of St. Johnsbury. This bill passed both houses of the legislature without opposition, and the following library commissioners have been appointed by the governor: Leland W. Landon, of Burlington, for five years; H. E. Rustedt, of Richford, for four years; Alfred E. Watson, of Hartford, for three years; Mary L. Titcomb, of Rutland, for two years; Louise L. Bartlett, of St. Johnsbury, for one year.

State Library Associations.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

The fifth annual meeting of the New Hampshire Library Association was held at Concord, on January 30, in the new State Library building. There was a good attendance, and after the transaction of routine business the following officers were elected for the ensuing year: President, Hon. W. W. Bailey, Nashua; vice-presidents, Hon. E. H. Gilman, Exeter, Hon. Daniel Hall, Dover, Hon. E. P. Jewell, Laconia, Dr. E. Q. Marston, Sandwich, Rev. J. E. Robins, Concord, Hon. N. P. Hunt, Manchester, Hon. F. C. Faulkner, Keene, Col. S. M. Richards, Newport, Gen. J. T. Cruft, Bethlehem, Hon. I. W. Drew, Lancaster; corresponding secretary, Hon. A. S. Batchellor, Littleton; recording secretary and clerk, A. R. Kimball, Concord; librarian and treasurer, Miss A. M. Colby, Concord; executive committee: Miss C. H. Garland, Dover, Miss Kate Sanborn, Manchester, Fred Gowing, Nashua, C. B. Spofford, Claremont, J. H. Whittier, East Rochester; auditor, Maj. A. H. Chase, Concord.

A committee, consisting of Rev. J. E. Robins and Hon. J. C. Gilmore, of Manchester, was appointed to draft and report later suitable resolutions on the death of the late librarian, Daniel F. Secomb, of Concord.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

The 13th regular meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club was held at the Friends' Library, Philadelphia, on Monday evening, January 14. The meeting was called to order at 8 o'clock by the president, Mr. T. L. Montgomery.

After the reading and approval of the minutes of the previous meeting the president introduced Professor Albert H. Smyth, of the Central High School, who read an interesting paper in which he gave his reminiscences of European libraries and an instructive account of the great Halliwell-Phillipps Shakespearean Library.*

A report was read by Mr. Thomson, chairman of the committee on legislation, in which he informed the club that Senator Penrose had introduced a bill, looking towards the enactment of

a library law, at the last session of the legislature.

The trustees of the Free Library of Philadelphia have appointed a committee, consisting of Messrs. W. J. Latta, T. L. Montgomery, and John Thomson to co-operate with the Library Club for the purpose of securing the passage of the bill.

The bill, as presented to the legislature, was read by Mr. Thomson, and was made the subject of a brief discussion.

On motion the report of the committee was accepted and ordered filed. It was further voted that the committee appointed by the trustees of the Free Library should also represent the Library Club before the judiciary committee in favor of the passage of the bill.

The president reported progress in behalf of the committee on union list of periodicals.

The following nominations were made for officers to serve during the coming year:

President, T. L. Montgomery; vice-presidents, John Thomson, Henry J. Carr, Alice B. Kroeger; secretary and treasurer, Alfred Rigling.

Mr. Montgomery asked permission to withdraw his name as he was in favor of rotation in office. There being no other oppositions, the nominees were declared elected, their terms of office to commence with the March meeting.

A number of the librarians present gave brief accounts of the libraries under their charge.

ALFRED RIGLING, *Secretary*.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

THE regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club was held at the rooms of the Ethical Society, December 6, 1894.

The club took a vote on an amendment to the constitution making the election of officers hereafter in March, rather than December. It was carried. The following officers were elected to fill out the time until March: President, Miss Lydia A. Dexter; 1st vice-president, Miss Theresa West; 2d vice-president, Miss Mary B. Lindsey; secretary, Miss Katharine L. Sharp; treasurer, Miss Elizabeth A. Young.

A delightful musical program was furnished by Miss McIlvaine, Miss Goldberger, Miss Rommeiss, and Mr. Merrill. Refreshments were served, and the club adjourned after tendering a vote of thanks to the retiring officers.

CARRIE L. ELLIOTT, *Secretary*.

The regular meeting of the Chicago Library Club, postponed from January 4 on account of holidays, was held Friday evening, January 10, in the directors' room of the Chicago Public Library. Miss Lydia A. Dexter, of the Newberry Library, the newly elected president, occupied the chair. Minutes of the meeting of December 6 were read and approved, and the treasurer's report was read and accepted. The executive committee reported the names of Miss Jessie Thomas and Mr. Edward L. Bur-

* Prof. Smyth's address will be published in no. 2 of the "Occasional papers" of the club.

chard as approved for membership. Owing to pressure of work, Miss Young and Miss Sharp, who were elected treasurer and secretary respectively at the December meeting, handed in their resignations, and a new election for those offices was held. Edward L. Burchard, of the Field Columbian Museum Library, was made secretary, and Mr. Merrill treasurer, to act until March, when the new election of officers takes place.

Miss Dexter expressed her appreciation of the honor conferred by the club in electing her president, and her intention of promoting in every way the aims of the club. She then stated that Miss West, of the Milwaukee Public Library, was unable to give her paper on "Libraries and their facilities," owing to illness on her staff, which made it necessary for her to remain at her desk. In her place, Dr. Wire presented a paper on "How the librarian should read." The many suggestions of Dr. Wire's paper brought out an interesting and lively discussion. The pith of the paper was, that the librarian should be familiar with the resources of his own library, should read bibliographies on all subjects, book reviews and criticisms; that all of the employees of the library, in fact, should acquire a good working knowledge of books. For outside reading, at least one hour a day should be devoted to pursuing some definite scheme of reading. In these days of social unrest, let a librarian's reading be such as will put him ahead of his times, and so make him helpful to his constituency. If he has a favorite subject, let him study it more thoroughly, for it is on his specialty that he will be most questioned. He should read to improve his own mind, but above all in order to perform ably his duty to the community as the conservator and missionary of learning.

Mr. Merrill, in his remarks upon the paper, thought that the librarian could not spend too much time in posting himself, by reading reviews or bibliographies, as to the character of the literature in the library. The librarian, above all others, should be the one that knows what literature there is, its value for specific purposes and special classes of people, and who also knows exactly where it is in the library. He instanced a case of a librarian who had been 50 years in library work, and who, when asked for any book, could wind in and out through the alcoves of the library and put his hand on exactly the right book, so that students often told him that he had saved them weeks of hunting. Of course it is not proper to spend all of one's time in reading, but for the librarian, it is perfectly legitimate to take reasonable time for rapid study of the library's resources, and also for equipping himself along the lines of library economy and bibliography. Mr. Merrill considered it a great pity that the librarian and the higher officers of the library, who, better than anyone else, know the contents of the library and its adaptabilities, should be inaccessible to the public, and that inquiring minds must depend upon assistants who have not the same experience or knowledge. According to the present system of ordering, the details of management

devolve upon the head librarian, and the reference work is given to others. In Mr. Merrill's opinion a sufficient clerical force should relieve the chief officers for reference and other work more valuable to the readers.

Mr. Nyhuus, of the Chicago Public Library, stated that he was fairly well acquainted with the literature of his native country, Norway, but that since he had been here his close study of library work and of bibliography in general had not left him sufficient time to read American fiction. He was so frequently asked some question about fiction that he had decided that at some golden time he would buy several thousand novels and begin to "pick up."

Dr. Wire advised him not to be rash. He had seen so much over-use of light literature that he was, on the whole, disgusted with it, and thought the librarian would do wisely to leave it out of his literary bill of fare. Mr. Merrill, on the other hand, believed that fiction has a very important part in the all-round development that the librarian should aim for. He would find in fiction, as nowhere else, the spirit of the age, and if he wished to keep in close touch and sympathy with the people of his day and age, he must, to some extent, be a reader of fiction. Mrs. Dixon quoted Prof. Moulton, the eminent *littérateur* of the University of Chicago, as saying that the advice formerly given, "Study science and history, but read very little fiction," is now changed to "dip a little into science and history, but study fiction."

The president inquired of the members present as to the amount of fiction reading done, and in general it seemed that very little time was left to the majority present in which to pursue this class of reading.

The club adjourned after deciding that the next meeting should be held at the University of Chicago, on Friday evening, February 8.

Reviews.

UNITED STATES, *Dept. of Interior*. Report regarding the receipt, distribution, and sale of public documents on behalf of the Government by the Department of the Interior, 1892-94. [By J. G. Ames.] Washington, Government Printing Office, 1894. 42 p. O.

In the present report, dated December 6, 1894, Mr. Ames presents a statistical summary of the work of his department during the two fiscal years, 1892-94. During that time 92,444 Congressional documents—the journals, executive and miscellaneous documents and Senate and House reports—have been received and distributed, one set to each state and territorial library and one set to each of the several state and territorial institutions designated as depositories. The list of designated depositories given in the report is more interesting than would appear at first sight as an index to the free library status of the several states. Alabama, for example, possesses eight depositories, all of which, with the exception of the state library and

the state board of health at Montgomery, are colleges and universities; Arizona, besides the territorial library, has a depository in the Free Public Library of Tucson; New Mexico is represented solely by the territorial library; while Oklahoma, which five years ago did not exist, not only has the territorial library of Guthrie, but the library of Oklahoma University, at Norman. Utah has no state library and her only depository is the University of Utah, at Salt Lake City. Texas has eight depositories, among them the Platonian Literary Society, of Savoy, and Florida has not a single public library in the list, all of her five depositories, excepting the state library, being connected with schools or colleges. The states containing the largest number of depositories are New York 35, Pennsylvania 26, Illinois 21, Ohio 21, Missouri 17, and Massachusetts 16, the latter rather a small allowance for so essentially a "library" state. Some libraries that might be expected to appear on the list are not found, and many of those that do appear seem out of place. For instance, in Pennsylvania we find that the Workingmen's Library of Germantown is listed as a depository, but the Scranton Public Library is not.

A list is also given of the libraries receiving the publications of the Geological Survey. These are sent, by act of March 3, 1887, to two libraries in each Congressional district, and to four libraries additional in each state. The new public documents bill increases the number, providing (sec. 79) that the publications of the Survey, issued prior to 1894, shall be sent to libraries designated, two by each senator, two by each representative, and two by each territorial delegate. These publications thus reach a large number of libraries, most of them belonging to small colleges or academies and to local associations.

The delay in the binding of documents for distribution is not now as great as formerly, according to Mr. Ames, though he presents a record of about 100 volumes belonging to Congresses prior to the present which still await binding. This is one of the annoyances that will be relieved if not removed by the new bill, which provides that "in binding documents the Public Printer shall give precedence to those that are to be distributed to libraries and to designated depositories." A brief résumé is given of the distribution of the department and miscellaneous reports, the U. S. Official Register, the Census report with accompanying monographs, and the Supreme Court reports. There is also an interesting list of the documents held for sale by the superintendent of documents, under the provision authorizing the sale, at cost price, of Government publications available for that purpose. The list gives the names of the publications, the number of copies sold, and the prices—which range from five cents for the monograph on "Chemical products and salt," to \$8 for the monograph on "Invertebrate paleontology"—and it should prove very useful to librarians as a partial price-list of Government publications. In conclusion, Mr. Ames announces that he has in preparation a new and enlarged edition of his "Check-list of Congress-

sional and other documents" and of his "Finding-list," and that he will shortly issue an index to the principal speeches on important subjects made by senators and representatives, as given in the Congressional Record from the 43d to the 52d Congress, inclusive; it will contain also a reference to the votes taken on these subjects.

The report proper is accompanied by a brief addendum, evidently added at a later date, in which Mr. Ames makes his valedictory as superintendent of public documents in the Department of the Interior, that office being abolished by the new public documents bill, which provides for its resumption under the authority of the Public Printer. During his 20 years of service Mr. Ames has been in the best sense devoted to his office and its betterment; he has given time and energy with disinterested zeal to the improvement of existing methods of arrangement, distribution and indexing of Government publications; and he has won the support and esteem of librarians by his unremitting efforts in their behalf.

Library Economy and History.

LOCAL.

Adams (Mass.) P. L. The town has decided to erect a new library building and armory combined, and plans by a Pittsfield architect have been accepted. They call for a three-story building, 100 x 66 feet, of brick, with terra-cotta trimmings. The first floor will contain the library—reading-room and main room—and two stores. The upper floors will be devoted to the armory and to a few business offices. The building will cost about \$40,000.

Altoona, Pa., Mechanics' L. (Rpt.) Added 1529; total 20,725. Issued 42,930; no. members 833. Receipts \$3933.72; expenses \$3511.70.

"It is with much regret that attention must be called to the large increase in the number of books missing of which there is no trace, the number having increased from 92, as shown in last year's report, to 103, as shown in the report for 1894, 58 volumes of which are fiction and boys' books. In last year's report this matter was referred to, rather congratulating the board on the small loss sustained in this way, notwithstanding the open cases; but from this large increase it would appear that there is pilfering going on. The matter will be taken in hand vigorously.

"There are 125 school children who enjoy the privilege of the library on account of courtesy extended to them by the Pennsylvania Railroad Company, these 125 children representing an equal number of shares of stock as held by the company. This policy was inaugurated several years ago, and seems to be appreciated by the children."

Ansonia, Ct. The fine memorial library, given to Ansonia by Miss Caroline Phelps Stokes, of New York, in memory of her grandfather, Anson G. Phelps, was permanently closed in November last, by Miss Stokes' orders, because in her opinion it was not properly supported by

the town. The building was formally presented to Ansonia in June, 1892, and has been described in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL* (17:209). It is of stone, beautiful in design, and handsomely fitted, and cost \$60,000; it was also supplied with 30,000 volumes by Miss Stokes. Miss Stokes is and has been for some time in Europe, but a representative, speaking for her on the subject, in a recent interview said: "Negotiations between Miss Stokes and the town authorities have been going on ever since the library was built, and the closing is only the result of the town's dilatory action in regard to her gift." He added that the town had exhibited a decided lack of appreciation, and that during the two years the library was opened to the public, at Miss Stokes' expense, the authorities have collected water rates and taxes on the land and building. "Miss Stokes did not stock the library completely; she put in a good many standard books, but she thought that the townsfolk would take more interest and pride in the library if it was built up partly by their own exertions. Those exertions, as it turned out, consisted solely of bickerings and political wire-pullings among the authorities. It was evident, at last, that the town did not really intend to accept the gift; that they were willing to have the library only on condition of its permanent support by her, and that an essential point with them was the collection of taxes on the land and building. The last straw was the fact that the authorities demanded that they be permitted to appoint a librarian. This man was to be a local politician; his salary was to be fixed by the officials and paid by Miss Stokes."

On the other side—the Ansonian side—it is asserted that the library has never been popular; that the attendance has been very limited; that the rules enforced were prohibitively strict; and that "when Miss Stokes proffered the gift of the building to the town the offer was hedged with such restrictions that the officials did not think best to accept it, or even to place the matter before the public, to decide by vote whether the gift should be accepted. It was estimated that it would take an income of from \$10,000 bonded at 4 per cent., to pay the running expenses," and this the town did not feel it could afford.

Since the library was closed, Derby, a neighboring town to Ansonia, has made formal application to Miss Stokes, asking that the library be removed to that city, and promising to accept the conditions made by Miss Stokes when the library was offered to Ansonia.

Asheville (N. C.) L. A. Added 20; total not given. Issued 5714; no. subscribers 481; receipts \$916.37; expenses \$877.19. Membership fees are \$3 yearly.

Boulder, Col. Univ. of Colorado L. (Rpt.; p. 14—15 of biennial rpt. of regents.) Added 1145; total 9354. The report covers from Oct. 1, 1892 to Oct. 1, 1894.

"The necessity of greater space and facilities for the consultation of periodicals and bound volumes of magazines, mentioned in the previous report, has been amply met in the library's new quarters on the third floor; the entire west room,

spacious and light, being devoted exclusively to periodicals, magazines, and newspapers. The list of 100 periodicals is continued, and the completed volumes have been preserved and bound. No binding was done in the first year covered by this report, but during the past year 37 v. have been bound, and 250 more are in the binder's hands. This will bring our periodical literature well up to date, and increase, by so much, our too meagre sources of reference."

Chattanooga (Tenn.) L. A. Added 222; total 5500; membership 200.

Denver (Col.) City L. The library was opened in its new quarters on the main floor of the Chamber of Commerce building on Jan. 23. The removal from the crowded rooms on the top floor of the building is a most welcome one, and the new quarters afford ample light and space. The reading-room, reference-room and delivery-room have been attractively fitted up, and provision is made for future increase and extension.

Denver (Col.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 4277; total 19,021. Issued, home use 150,756 (fict. 42.1%; juv. 24.6%); no. visitors 200,959.

"The reading-room files do not include daily papers of Denver or elsewhere, aside from Sunday editions of the best papers of a few leading papers East and West. If daily papers, such as are commonly furnished in reading-rooms, were added to the files, the rooms, already often full, would be frequently overcrowded.

"This library has two features which much increase the cost of its maintenance. One is the very large list of periodical literature to be handled, kept constantly in order and made always accessible to the public; the other is access of the public to the shelves, and the accompanying personal attention given by librarian and all assistants to any one who asks it. Without making any deductions for these items of expense—present to the same extent as with us in very few libraries in the country—the cost per volume of books circulated for home use is less than that of the St. Louis, Cleveland, Newark, Detroit or Baltimore public libraries, to mention no others.

"The monthly journal *Books* is still continued, from two to six pages of each issue being given to library notes and lists. The slight expense in connection with it would seem to have been justified by the results. The journal has been very useful in popularizing the library in Denver, especially in the schools, and has been largely instrumental in arousing the present library interest throughout the state. It is now rare for a week to pass without a request to the library from some town or village in the state for information about starting or purchasing a library.

"The work done in connection with the schools has increased notably in the past year. Teachers have taken a greater interest in the reading of their pupils. In many cases books have been sent to school-rooms on the teachers' request, in lots of from 10 to 50, and have been used in every-day work or lent by the teachers to the pupils for home use. Work of this kind is limited now, as it has been ever since the library opened, only by the library's resources."

Detroit (Mich.) P. L. (30th rpt.) Added 9323; total 131,192. Issued, home use 374,976; (fict. 72.90 %); ref. use 293,281 (bound periodicals 20.15 %); no. borrowers 27,375. Receipts \$79,384.93; expenses \$65,183.98. The building fund now amounts to \$30,618.75.

The use of the reference department shows an increase of 124 % over the previous year — presumably the result of the new and attractive reference-room. A special room for children's use is advocated. During the year the supplemental general catalog, of 900 p., was issued, as was a new catalog of English prose fiction; a catalog of books in German is in preparation. There has been an increase in the binding account, due to increased use of books; 6866 v. were bound or rebound, 5834 repaired, and 1682 rewired; the binding is done by contract with local binders, at an average cost of 61 cents per v.; rewiring and repairing is done in the library.

"The plan of exhibiting to the public all new books two full days before they are put into circulation has been tried with satisfaction. Under this arrangement no new books are reserved in advance of their preparation for the shelves. At the time when they are announced to be ready they are given out to the first persons who apply. This plan seemed to be necessary in order to break up an abuse of the system by which, under the rule, the deposit of a penny entitled the applicant to the reservation of a book, and notice when it is ready for delivery. Certain shrewd individuals who watched the book announcements and reviews were in the habit every week of handing in 10 cents and a list of attractive new books. So many of these lists accumulated that an outsider stood no chance of getting a new book inside of a year, unless a large number of copies was bought. After books are once in circulation they come under the rule, and may be reserved as heretofore.

"Though the books given out for home reading are counted from day to day, there are about 4000 library books at all times in the hands of pupils of the public schools. These are in constant circulation from the school-houses, and of course cannot be counted from the library except when they are sent out, about four or five times a year."

Dexter, Me. Abbott Memorial L. The new library building, presented to the town on Christmas day, is the gift of G. A. Abbott, a wealthy mill-owner of Dexter. The building, which is in the Italian Renaissance style, is of light gray brick, with base courses of granite, and ornamentation of terra-cotta. The main portico, reached by broad terraced steps, leads to an entrance-hall and delivery-room combined, 16 x 23, finished in quartered oak; beyond, separated by a counter, is the stack-room, 20 x 70 feet, and 20 feet high, with a book capacity of 14,000 v. On the right is the art gallery, 22 x 22, and the librarian's room, 10 x 13; opposite, on the left, are the selectmen's room and cloak-rooms, and in the northeast corner of the building is the reading-room, 15 x 22. The building is tastefully decorated, and wired for electric lighting throughout.

Fall River (Mass.) P. L. The city council has authorized the issue of bonds to the extent of \$150,000, to be known as a "public library loan, for the purchase of a site and construction of a suitable fireproof building for the proper protection and maintenance of the public library, and to provide proper accommodations for the school committee and school supplies."

Fl. Wayne (Ind.) P. L. The new library building was opened on the evening of Jan. 29, and the work of issuing books was begun on the following morning. The library starts with about 3500 v.; its establishment has been agitated from time to time since 1880, and was largely due to the efforts of the Woman's Club of the city. It is located in the city hall. Mrs. Susan Hoffman is librarian.

Grand Rapids (Mich.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 6441; total 38,214; issued 202,285; attendance ref. room 39,782. The circulation shows an increase of 26 % over the previous year, and there is a decrease of 10 % in the issue of fiction, "largely due to the circulation of the monthly issues of the popular magazines." The total no. of library cards issued is 11,884.

"At the October (1893) meeting of the board of education a report was presented for the purchase of some 2000 books, to constitute branch libraries for each of the public schools. In November another list of about 800 reference-books was presented for the same purpose. To these books were added all that could be spared from the main library, making in all 3415 volumes."

The supervision of books already in the school buildings, some 2923 v., was also transferred to the library. The books purchased were distributed to the schools in February and April.

"The plan for the branch libraries, which was carried out, was that a new series of cards called 'Branch school library cards' should be issued from the main library under the usual rules, that is, each card-taker should provide a guarantor, to be approved by the library management. When the books were distributed the librarian visited each school, instructing the principals in the methods of charging and caring for the books. The principals were thus made sub-librarians, and the pupils brought their cards and drew books from the branch libraries under the same regulations that govern the main library.

"At the close of the school year an attendant was sent to the branch libraries to gather statistics and to take account of every book, that the condition of each branch may be on record at the main library. 2473 cards have been issued to the school children, and 668 cards stamped for school use. The 2558 books issued in February, 1894, have been drawn 15,905 times, making an average circulation of 31 books a week in each school, or an average of 1022 a week in all the schools.

"Two objects of great importance are gained by these branch school libraries. The reading of children is not only increased but directed by their teachers, and it places good books in the hands of children in the distant parts of the city who otherwise could not enjoy the privileges of the library. The superintendent, teachers, and

library management are unanimous in expressing their satisfaction with the results of this experiment, and a new order for books has been made to increase the libraries next year."

Hartford (Ct.) P. L. The "two-books-on-a-card" system went into effect at the library on December 1, 1894.

Huntington (L. I.) P. L. Added 179; total 3738; issued 3130. Receipts \$593.54; expenses \$476.37.

Jersey City (N. J.) P. L. It has been decided to close the circulating department of the library on Sundays and holidays, the reading-room to remain open on such days from 2 to 4 p.m.

Kennett Square, Pa. The Bayard Taylor Memorial Association received on Jan. 30 a charter for the organization of a public library and museum to be established as a memorial to Bayard Taylor.

Kensington, Mass. Plans have been accepted for the new library building, to be given to Kensington by Jos. C. Hillard, of Amesbury, Mass. They were designed by architect Tilden, of Boston, and call for a brick building, a story and a half in height and 28 by 40 in dimensions. The building is to be completed before June 1, 1895.

Lawrence (Mass.) P. L. The library has received a collection of about 8500 v., for many years known as the "Pacific library" and established in the Pacific mills of Lawrence. The transfer was made by the mill-owners, on account of a demand for increased room.

Lynn (Mass.) P. L. (Rpt.) Added 1635; total 49,616; issued 162,767. Receipts \$7,904.28; expenses \$7,859.

"Two years ago we began to allow visitors to have direct access to several thousand of the best standard works. The plan has worked well, except with a group of small boys who came looking for amusement among some of the illustrated magazines. For these young people a special collection of entertaining books has been planned, which will amply supply their wants, and at the same time serve to preserve many of the reference books, which otherwise would be damaged beyond recovery.

"It has not been possible during the year to make any important improvements in the arrangement of the library or in the method of administration. The six rooms in the city hall devoted exclusively to library purposes—four of which are in the third story, accessible only by long and inconvenient stairways—were in a crowded condition at the beginning of the year, and the few changes rendered necessary by the accession of new books are temporary arrangements which, while they have contributed in some degree to the comfort of visitors, have largely increased the labors of the librarian and assistants." The librarian urges the necessity of a new building.

Macon (Ga.) P. L. The library has at last had its financial difficulties adjusted and is able to continue its work. For the past six or eight

months it has been in debt, unable to meet obligations, and rapidly declining in membership. Various unsuccessful efforts were made to raise the debt by entertainments, etc., but it was finally decided that the library must be auctioned off to pay its indebtedness, and arrangements to this effect were duly made. On Dec. 14, however, a compromise was effected by which the chief creditors were paid in part, and given a life membership at par value for the residue of their claim. This leaves the library free from debt, and it is hoped that it may be practically reorganized and effectively administered. At the period of its greatest prosperity it had a membership of about 400; it now has but 126 members. The annual dues are \$4.

Memphis, Tenn. Cossitt L. The library enters upon the new year better equipped to fulfil its purpose than it has yet been. Since the completion of the handsome building, several years ago, there have been constant difficulties in endeavoring to collect books sufficient to form an adequate collection. During the year something over \$2700 has been contributed and there are now 7400 v. on the shelves, nearly all of which have been added during this period. The librarian, Mr. Nunnally, has finished shelving the library, and expects to have the books ready for circulation early in the year. The library is open from 8 a.m. to 10 p.m., and there is a fair average attendance.

Milford, Ct. Taylor L. The Taylor Library building was dedicated on the afternoon of Feb. 2. It is the gift of H. A. Taylor of Milford, and is a handsome granite structure, substantial and picturesque, in the Colonial style of architecture, and one story and a half in height. On the first floor a broad hall separates the reading-room and library-room; in the latter are seven alcoves, each with a book capacity of 1100 to 1300 v. These, with the exception of two or three, have been appropriated by various Milford families, who are furnishing them with books. The provision of more shelf-room is already under consideration. There is also a well-equipped reference-room. An interesting feature of the library is the "Colonial alcove," founded by the late Nathan Gillette Pond, an antiquarian and geologist; it contains a valuable collection of biographies and other books relating to early pioneers of Connecticut. The librarian is Wallace S. Chase.

Minneapolis (Minn.) P. L. The following tabulated statement, detailing the results of the recent inventory of the books, was submitted to the library board at its November meeting by Librarian Hosmer: "Books unaccounted for at Central, 850; books unaccounted for at branches, 75; total, 925; volumes likely to be found (150 or 200) leaving 725. Known loss, June, 1892, 60; estimated net loss, 1894, 785; loss per year (five years), 157. Comparison with other libraries: Chicago (no free access) loss per year, 170; St. Louis (no free access) loss per year, 140; Cleveland (free access) loss, 403. Recovered from past losses, 144; net loss, 258."

In order to guard against such loss, if pos-

sible, Mr. Hosmer intends to improve the system of charging books sent out to the branch libraries and delivery stations.

Suit has been begun by the library board against a local bookseller, to secure the return of \$121. The money was advanced for subscriptions to periodicals which were procured through the bookseller; shortly after receiving it he became insolvent, and his assignee offered to settle for 25 cents on the dollar. The claim is made by the board that the money was only held in trust, and that if it is not made good, the bookseller is not only financially liable, but criminally as well.

Montclair (N. J.) F. P. L. Added 2014; total 3715. Issued 18,245 (fict. 84.5%); no. cardholders 1301. The library was opened Jan. 1, 1893, with 1719 books, of which about 1200 were from the old Montclair Library Association. A fiction finding-list was issued in October, 1894, and sold at 15 c. per copy; a general classified catalog is now in preparation, and there is a complete card catalog.

New Bedford (Mass.) P. L. The public school teachers recently presented a petition to the library board, asking that they be given special cards allowing the issue of 10 books at a time to be kept a month for school-work. At a meeting of the board it was decided not to grant the petition, but instead to issue special teachers' cards for teachers in all schools, public and private, entitling the holder to three books which are needed in actual school-work; all books withdrawn on such cards to be presented for renewal once a fortnight. For teachers needing more than three books, the trustees have decided to issue blanks of application for more extended use, to be used by teachers exclusively. These are to be filled out by the applicant, presented to the librarian, and forwarded to the library committee for action.

New Hampshire. LIBRARIES IN NEW HAMPSHIRE; open regularly to the public. [Reprinted from state librarian's report.] Concord, N. H., 1894. 16 p. O.

A tabulated list of all libraries in New Hampshire regularly open to the public or to some portions of the public. The libraries are divided into five classes: 1, libraries owned or partly owned by the town, excepting school libraries; 2, libraries owned or controlled by associations or individuals, excepting school libraries; 3, public school libraries; 4, libraries of schools and colleges owned and controlled by private corporations or individuals; 5, libraries owned by the state. The libraries are arranged alphabetically by location and the list gives date of foundation, terms of use, no. vols. in 1894, name of librarian and amount of annual public appropriation. It was compiled by A. R. Kimball, late state librarian of New Hampshire.

New York F. C. L. Sunday opening was recently adopted at the Harlem branch as an experiment, and the trustees have decided to continue the practice permanently. On the first three Sundays an average of 15 books were

drawn, but on the fourth Sunday, after a placard announcing the opening had been hung in the window, 40 books were issued. All the other branches of the F. C. L. are open on Sundays. The Sunday hours at the Harlem branch are from 4 to 9 p.m.

New York. Lenox L. The complete series of phototype illustrations to Edward Muybridge's work on "Animal locomotion" have been secured by the Lenox Library. They are in 11 large folio volumes.

New Utrecht, L. I. An association has been organized for the establishment of a free public library in New Utrecht. It is hoped to raise \$600 by subscription, to start the library and carry it on for one year, independent of any aid that may be obtained from the state. A considerable proportion of the sum desired has been subscribed.

Newark (N. J.) P. L. (6th rpt.) Added 5074; total 44,413. Issued, home use 321,533 (fict. 78.4%); ref. room attendance 19,146, no record of ref. use is kept. No. borrowers 44,528. Receipts \$53,953.87; expenses \$38,556.25.

There is a decrease of about one per cent. in the circulation of fiction, "which may be attributed to free access to shelves. It is a significant fact that ever since readers have been permitted to go to the shelves and select their books the percentage of novels read has steadily decreased. When the Brookline system of issuing two books to the same individual is put into execution by this library the difference between the use of fiction and of other books will be reduced."

Free access to all shelves except for fiction was continued during the year with gratifying results. The total number of books lost is 51, of which 34 have been accounted for, leaving a net loss of 17.

The University Extension work undertaken during the year was successful; three full courses of 12 lectures each were given, and there was a membership of 476.

"Early in the fall the board of education issued a 'Manual of instruction and course of study for the public schools,' which contained a list of books for parallel reading. It proved an excellent guide and aid to teachers, and was the direct means of greatly augmenting the circulation of books among teachers and pupils."

The most important improvement to the library was the installation of a new steel stack in the summer of 1894; it gives a shelving capacity of 60,000 v. Librarian Hill closes his report with recommendation for better reference accommodations, a repairing-room, and an independent electric plant. The president of the library board brings up the question of a new library building, and urges that it be definitely settled in the affirmative.

Newport, R. I. Redwood L. and Athenaeum. (164th rpt.) Added 2530; total 40,759. Issued, home use 11,544 (fict. 64%); ref. use has "considerably increased." Receipts \$9671.56; expenses \$9260.09.

The library has received a noteworthy gift from Fairman Rogers—the majority of the

books of his private Newport library, amounting to 1740 v., and 103 maps; Mr. Rogers also gave \$100 to be used for binding.

"With the exception of the fortnight during which the library was closed, the cataloging has gone on without interruption, though the progress made during the latter half of the year has not been as great as during the earlier portion, due chiefly to the fact that the subjects treated latterly have been more troublesome—law, government, and administration having been particularly difficult." The number of books cataloged since the last annual report is 4000 v. and 1398 pm., making the whole number thus far cataloged 34,811 v., and 1398 pm.

The librarian recommends better lighting, more shelf-room, and the disposal of duplicates.

Niagara Falls (N. Y.) P. L. The Niagara Falls Public Library was duly organized on Jan. 25, and a librarian and assistant librarian were appointed. The librarian will be unsalaried, and the assistant librarian, Mrs. Adele Burnham, will receive \$25 per month. Beginning February 1, the library is open six hours on every working day, from nine to 12 a.m. and from two to five p.m. An application has been made to the State Board of Regents for the \$200 which the library is entitled to under the law.

Norwich, Ct. Otis L. It has been decided to discontinue the library *Bulletin*, because it can no longer be published, as heretofore, free of expense to the library. To continue the publication, it would be necessary to take money from the fund for the purchase of books. With the increasing use of the library, the continual need of new books is so apparent that it has been thought unwise to encroach upon the limited book-fund in any way. It is hoped that the lack of the bulletin will be, to a great degree, compensated by the means already employed to bring new books before the public, viz.: the posted bulletins of new books on the library walls, the lists of new books on the catalog-table, and the card catalog proper.

Ohio State L., Columbus. According to the 49th report, recently presented by Librarian J. P. Smith, there have been 1760 additions made during the year, the total number of v. being 67,010. The total expenditure for books was \$2269. Several of the books added are of historic value and interest. No volumes were lost or stolen during the year, although there were more readers than usual, and there were more visitors at the library than in any year of record. It is the aim of the commissioners to popularize the library by increasing the number of its readers, so far as the laws permit.

Pennsylvania State L., Harrisburg. The new state library and executive building, work on which was begun in October, 1893, was finished on the first of December last, and the library is now in the midst of removal to its new quarters. This cannot be carried on as promptly as was hoped, for the reason that the shelving which, according to contract, was to have been completed and in place by October 15, has as yet been only partly delivered.

The building is divided into two distinct departments—one for executive, the other for library purposes. The former contains the offices of the governor, lieutenant-governor, secretary, attorney-general, auditor-general, and state treasurer, and is admirably complete in all details. The library is 55 x 147 feet, with a handsome separate entrance. A gallery extends around the sides, one story above the first floor, and there are 52 alcoves, each enclosed with an iron railing, supplied with chairs and tables, and lighted by electricity. The state librarian and his assistants have separate offices, located on the first floor, and handsomely fitted up. In the basement are the newspaper and storage rooms. The stack-room, connecting with the main library, contains steel shelving for about 500,000 v. In addition, the building contains a museum and a flag-room, which will fittingly house the state's collection of relics. The entire building cost \$487,000.

Philadelphia. Byberry L. "The sedate old Quaker suburb of Byberry," says the *Philadelphia Record*, "boasts of one of the oldest libraries in the United States. The stockholders of the Byberry Library held their 100th annual election in December last, in the quiet sedate way in which everything is managed in that Quaker settlement. The old stone building, the lower floor of which is occupied by the Friends' School, has undergone but slight alteration since the library was started just 100 years ago, and many of the original volumes still remain intact. From the original minutes it appears that, 'At a meeting of a number of respectable inhabitants of Philadelphia and Bucks Counties, held at Byberry school-house, pursuant to appointment, on the eighth of the 12th month, 1794,' it was 'resolved that the citizens now met use their influence to promote an institution under the title of Byberry Library, to be first opened at the dwelling-house of Ezra Townsend, in Bensalem.' Four years later the library was removed from the residence of Ezra Townsend to the school-house. An article of the original by-laws says that 'no books shall ever be admitted into this library that have a manifest tendency to corrupt the morals of mankind, such as atheistical or deistical publications, novels, plays, romances, or any other that in any wise contradicts or derogates the truths of the gospel, or is prejudicial to the Christian religion.' The shelves contain but 3000 volumes."

Philadelphia F. L. The first exhibit of the library in its new rooms on Chestnut street will be held during the last week of February. It will consist of a representative collection of bindings, showing examples from the leading binders of Italy, France, England and America, in chronological sequence. Some of the books have been on exhibition at the Grolier Club, New York, and are shown by arrangement with Mr. Robert Hoe and Mrs. Avery. The exhibit will be conducted under the auspices of the Philobiblon Club.

Plainfield (N. J.) P. L. It has been ordered by Chancellor McGill, of the state court, that the Schoonmaker collection of Japanese pottery

and *cloisonné* shall go to the Public Library, as intended by Job Male. The collection is valued at \$30,000. Mr. Male purchased it for the library, but omitted to make testamentary provision. When the estate was in litigation the collection was ordered sold. The heirs all signed a petition to the chancellor renouncing their claims, and asking that it be given to the library.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. Of the nine sets of plans for the new library building submitted by competing architects to Prof. Ware of Columbia College, none were accepted by the committee on building. Five of the architects whose designs were commended by Prof. Ware were, however, awarded \$300 each.

Quincy (Ill.) P. L. The two-books-on-a-card system was put in operation by Librarian Moulton during January.

Rockland (Me.) P. L. On the afternoon of January 16, the new library was opened for regular service. It has been in process of cataloging and classification for the past four months, and starts with about 2000 v. The library is open from 2 to 5 p.m. on Monday, Wednesday, and Saturday, and from 6.30 to 8.30 p.m. on Tuesday, Thursday, and Saturday. During the first week 480 cards were issued. Miss Nancy Burbank is librarian.

Rome, N. Y. Jervis L. A. The Jervis Library Association was organized on January 19, when a meeting was held, by-laws adopted, officers elected and a librarian appointed. The association was formed in accordance with the will of the late J. B. Jervis, from whose estate it receives a fund of \$44,165.83, and the Jervis home-stead, which is to be altered to serve as a library building. The librarian appointed, Miss M. E. Beach, will take a course of training at the New York State Library School.

St. Louis (Mo.) P. L. The basket-carrier system, used in large stores for the transmission of bundles and change, has been adopted in the library for the quick carriage of books from the shelves to the distributing counters. The mechanism will cost \$200, and there will be four stations, at which the boys can put books in the baskets. A delivery station has been established at the south end of the city, and it is intended to open another one at a suitable location in the north end.

Scranton (Pa.) P. L. (4th rpt.) Added 4353; total 22,928. Issued, home use 156,918 (fict. 79.28%); books issued for ref. use 2675; no record of general ref. use is kept. New borrowers 2942; total no. borrowers 8974. Receipts \$10,957.42; expenses \$10,186.48.

"The edition of the 'Finding-list of the circulating department, January, 1893,' was exhausted by the end of February, 1894. It was continued in August, by a 'First supplement.' Later there was issued, just at the close of the year, an 'Author-list of books in the library,' which indexes to a certain extent the entire contents of the library to August 31, 1894, so far as its individual volumes are concerned. This

'Author-list,' containing 184 pages, makes a convenient pamphlet, which, stapled in manilla tag-board covers, together with the 48 pages of the 'First supplement,' is sold to the patrons of the library at the nominal price of 15 cents each."

Sea Cliff (L. I.) P. L. The reading-room of the new Sea Cliff Library has been opened to the public, though the books are not yet ready for circulation. About 300 v. are now being cataloged; this includes 100 books from the New York State travelling library.

Seattle (Wash.) P. L. Added 764; total 11,812; issued, home use 144,199; no. card-holders 9838. Receipts \$12,225.78; expenses \$12,209.93. A catalog of the library was completed during the year. The library was removed to its new quarters in June, 1894.

Watertown (Mass.) F. P. L. The two-books-on-a-card system has been adopted in the library with satisfactory results. Librarian Whitney says: "This helps the introduction of other books into houses that usually care only for stories."

Wisconsin, State L. Commission for. Among the bills to be introduced at the 1895 session of the Wisconsin legislature is one providing for the creation of a state library commission, similar to those of Massachusetts and New Hampshire. It is hoped that this will aid in the development and establishment of libraries in the state, which are as yet comparatively few. The commissioners will serve without pay, and the only money expended will be upon the libraries.

Wisconsin State Historical Society L. Madison. The 42d annual meeting of the society was held on Nov. 13, in the rooms of the society. According to the report of Secretary Thwaites there were added during the year 4597 books and 2676 pm. making a total of 167,295 v. and pm. Of the accessions about 75 % are from gifts and exchanges of duplicates.

Much bibliographical work is constantly going on at the library, in the desire to increase its usefulness. The card catalog—author, title, and subject—is well advanced in preparation, but will not be completed for some years to come. The elaborate catalog, with historical notes, of the immense newspaper collection (8000 bound v.) is nearing completion, and will be issued in 1895. The society's collection of newspapers is only surpassed in extent and importance by that in the Library of Congress. The catalog will be the first of its kind issued by a library. It will be followed by a catalog of maps.

The report contains a detailed list of the 450 bound volumes of Draper mss., covering the history of the West from 1742 to 1816.

As to the use of the library, 91 % of the readers are professors and students in the state university. About 50,000 v. were issued for reference or alcove use.

An appeal is made for a larger appropriation, and the report closes with an urgent presentation of the need of a new library building. Finan-

cially, the society has accomplished much work with little means. The general fund consists of the \$5000 annual appropriation from the state, and from this books, etc., are purchased, several minor salaries paid, and miscellaneous expenses met. This sum, however, while large enough 20 years ago, is now far too small for the proper administration of the society, in its present stage of development. The binding fund is the outgrowth of gifts, half of the membership dues, etc., and amounts to \$25,000; the antiquarian fund only amounts thus far to \$2000, but is slowly growing from sales of duplicates and half of the membership dues; an attempt will be made during the year to secure gifts to swell this fund to an income-producing stage.

Woburn (Mass.) P. L. An index of the old and valuable volumes in the library is being prepared by Mr. W. P. Cutter, the librarian. There are few collections in the possession of the younger cities that can compare in value and age with Woburn's. In old law works the collection is singularly complete, and there is a long list of old school-books and other treasures of the printer's art, manufactured nearly two centuries ago. The art collection of the library will soon be increased by a large picture representing the ordination of Woburn's first pastor, for which a local artist has received the commission.

Woodbury, N. J. Deptford Institute F. L. The library was opened under its new conditions early in November, 1894. It is free not only to the people of Woodbury but to the citizens of the neighboring townships of Deptford and West Deptford. Miss Whitall, the librarian, has been for the past two months busy classifying and listing the books. She was formerly assistant librarian in the Free Library of Philadelphia. The founding of this library was one of the provisions of the gift to the city by the trustees of the Deptford school property. The school building and lot upon which it stands was several months since transferred to the city, and, in addition to this, the city council purchased an adjoining plot of ground for \$5000. This sum is held in trust, and the interest is devoted to the purchase of books which will be added from time to time. Since the acceptance of the property by the city, contributions have been received amounting to over \$600. The library is located in the city hall building, and is supported by the interest of the library fund, rooms, heat, and light being supplied free of charge.

FOREIGN.

Toronto (Ontario, Can.) P. L. Total, lending 1,48,027; ref. 1,41,221. Issued, home use 502,156; ref. use 33,571 (fict. 46%). Receipts, \$33,630; expenses, \$33,626.19.

"The whole tendency of the circulation has been in the direction of a reduction in the issue of fiction." During the year it is expected that a catalog of pamphlets may be completed. "The reading-room for the unemployed opened last season has been reopened this year."

Nottingham (Eng.) F. P. Ls. (Rpt.) Added 3019; total 75,098. Issued 411,011 (fict. 61.77%).

Total attendance at libraries and reading-rooms 2,162,657.

The issue of fiction is 4.74% less than it was two years ago.

A sixth supplement to the catalog of the central library, a class list relating to "Archæology and antiquities," a new edition of the "Music and musicians' list," a supplement to the Lenton Lending Library catalog, and an authors' list of fiction, poetry and drama, have been published. Other lists are in compilation. The author card catalog in the reference library is almost complete, and a subject card catalog will soon be begun.

The fourth season's series of "Half-hour talks with the people about books and book-writers" was given in 12 of the branch reading-rooms, and proved to be even more popular than in former years. Two were given in each of the rooms. They were delivered by the librarian and others interested, and covered many of the leading English writers. These lecture courses have become an established feature of the library.

There have been exhibited in the reference library curious collections of books illustrating the arts of printing and book illustration, and during the visit of the British Association there was a special exhibit of curious scientific works. On the staircase there is an ever-changing collection of portraits of authors, and pictures illustrating book and newspaper production.

PRACTICAL NOTES.

TO MOUNT NEWSPAPER PICTURES, PORTRAITS, ETC. — W. R. Watson, of the New York State Library School, sends the following suggestions as to the mounting of newspaper illustrations, etc. For cutting the picture, a rule and sharp knife are better than scissors, as the latter do not always give a true, clean edge. Lay the picture face up on a smooth surface — preferably binder's board — place the ruler so that the knife will cut just inside of the plate, and draw the knife firmly along the edge of the ruler. For mounting small pictures and portraits loose sheets from the letter size pads (heavy paper) of the Library Bureau may be used, as these can be arranged alphabetically. Hot starch gives the best results as a paste, as it is sufficiently adhesive, has little body, and whatever exudes from the edge of the picture can be quickly absorbed by a blotter, leaving almost no trace. Before applying the paste, lay the picture on the sheet to ascertain just where it is to go, marking lightly with pencil at top and sides. Apply the paste with a small brush around the edges of the picture; not all over the back, as that causes it to draw and wrinkle; then lay it on the sheet of paper prepared, and press between two smooth surfaces until the paste is set. To make an imitation mat around a picture: place the picture, face up, on a piece of blotting-paper, lay your ruler on the sheet on which the picture is mounted parallel with an edge of the picture and as far away as you wish your mat to extend; then draw some hard blunt instrument (the handle of an ink eraser will do) along the edge of the ruler. The result will be a deep crease in the paper. Continue this crease around the

picture in a similar manner, and you will have a very good substitute for a mat, which will add greatly to the appearance of the picture. The blotter underneath allows the blunt instrument making the crease to sink deeply enough and yet not break the paper. To get the mat on the different pictures at the same relative distance, a small pasteboard "locator" may be made by cutting a square piece of pasteboard with a spur projecting at a corner. Lay the locator on a corner of the picture, so that the edges on each side of the spur coincide with the edges of the picture; this will throw the point of the spur where the corner of the mat should come, mark this point and locate the other corners in similar manner.

Gifts and Bequests.

Champaign, Ill. A. C. Burnham, a banker of Champaign, has offered to give to the town his old homestead, to be used as a site for a library building, a sufficient sum for building purposes, and \$10,000 for furnishing and stocking the library.

Iowa State Univ., L. The library has recently come into possession of a private library, by gift from Mr. D. H. Talbott, of Sioux City, Ia. It contains about 4500 v., besides a large number of unbound periodicals, pamphlets, etc. The literature of natural history is the predominant feature of the collection. Mr. Talbott has also made large and valuable gifts to the natural history museum of the university during the past five years.

Lead City, S. D. A fully equipped library and reading-room was formally presented to Lead City, on Dec. 25, by Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst, widow of the late Senator Hearst, of California. The library occupies the third floor of the new Miner's Union Hall, and is well supplied with books, periodicals, and games. Once a fortnight a free musical recital is given in the main reading-room.

Leicester (Mass.) P. L. In December, 1894, Lory S. Watson, of Leicester, gave \$20,000 to the town for the construction of a new library building. The trustees of the library were already in possession of the nucleus of a building fund, which was not available until it had increased to \$15,000. Mr. Watson's gift made this fund available for use and increased it to proportions sufficient to erect and furnish a suitable building. A site was promptly selected by the trustees and a building committee appointed.

Ottumwa, Ia. By decision of the supreme court in the Ballingall will case, the city receives the entire bequest of \$200,000, left by the late Peter G. Ballingall, of that place. Mr. Ballingall, who was one of the richest citizens of Ottumwa, left an abstruse and intricate will, bequeathing nearly all of his fortune to the town. After considerable litigation on the part of the heirs, the will has now been declared valid. Besides various bequests for a park and hospital, the provisions for the Ottumwa Library Association

are as follows: \$200 a year until a \$6000 fund and a \$20,000 fund have been accumulated from the administration of other bequests provided, for, and 232 feet of ground on Main Street, to be used as site for a library building. The library will receive \$200 a year until the \$6000 fund is accumulated. It will then receive that fund and one-fourth of the net income from all of the properties willed to the city, including the net income of the \$20,000 fund.

Princeton (N. J.) College L. The library has received from a prominent alumnus, whose name is withheld, a fine mediæval ms. of Terence, consisting of 166 leaves, partly parchment, and partly paper. The text is written throughout in one hand in clear minuscule characters, and it is complete for the six plays. The ms. bears date 1402; it is the finest now in the college library, and is said to be one of the best classical manuscripts in the United States.

Univ. of Pennsylvania L. The Hon. W. Potter, ex-minister to Italy, has presented to the library a complete set of "Hansard's Parliamentary debates," 459 volumes, covering the proceedings and speeches in the English Parliament from 1666 to 1891. The volumes contain the debates of the English Parliament for a period of 825 years, going back to the time of its Saxon origin, before the days of William Rufus and the wars of the roses. It is believed that this is the last complete set of Hansard that will ever be offered for sale.

Waltham, Mass. By the will of the late Francis Buttrick, a wealthy lumber merchant of Waltham, that town is bequeathed \$60,000 for the establishment of a public library.

Winchester (Mass.) P. L. The library has been presented with a beautiful memorial window, given by the family of the late J. H. Tyler. The design is by Frederick Wilson and Joseph Lauber, and the window, which illustrates the history of book-making and the discovery of printing, was made by the Tiffany Glass Co. In the central light is the "First proof," representing Gutenberg taking the first impression from movable type, in the presence of Furst and Schoeffer. In the two side-lights are representations of the tree of knowledge, from whose branches hang escutcheons bearing the book-marks of some of the most famous early printers, such as Plantin, Aldus, Caxton, and Vostre. Accompanying them, and inscribed on ribbons or labels, are several extracts from great authors relating to books—for example, "My library was dukedom large enough," "Les livres sont des amis surs et fidèles," etc. Below the lights are representations of three kinds of primitive books—the wax tablets of the Romans, the scrolls of the Greeks, and a mediæval parchment manuscript. The last-named bears the memorial inscription, "In memory of Joseph Howe Tyler, born February 11, 1825; died July 11, 1892," followed by this passage from the book of Proverbs: "Happy is the man that findeth wisdom and the man that getteth understanding." On the Roman tables there is a quotation from Cicero, in fourth century characters, and on the Greek scroll there is a passage from Plato.

Librarians.

DAVIDSON, Mrs. Emma, of Peru, Ind., was elected state librarian of Indiana on Jan. 11, by the state legislature. She succeeds Miss M. E. Ahern, who has filled the position with admirable success for the past three years. Her election was entirely a matter of politics, the Republican victory of 1894 leading to a general "sweep" in the various state offices. Mrs. Davidson is the widow of an old soldier, who fought in the 39th Indiana Regiment. Since her husband's death, 20 years ago, she has been a school teacher in Peru, Ind. She was a candidate for the office of state librarian in 1881, when she was defeated by another Republican candidate. Her closest rival in the present election was Miss Nancy Baker, of the Indianapolis Public Library, secretary of the Indiana Library Association. In all there were 72 candidates for the office, which pays a salary of \$1200 a year.

DRISCOLL, Miss Emma, has been elected librarian of the Spokane (Wash.) City L., succeeding Frank L. Price.

PUTNAM, Herbert, was on February 5 appointed librarian of the Boston Public Library. Mr. Putnam is a son of G. P. Putnam, the founder of the New York publishing house of G. P. Putnam's Sons, and was born in New York City in 1861. He entered Harvard University in 1879, was graduated in 1883, studied for a year subsequently at Columbia Law School and in the fall of 1884 went to Minneapolis. In 1885 he entered the Minnesota bar, and about that time became librarian of the Minneapolis Athenæum, a stock corporation library, with a fund yielding \$10,000 a year for the purchase of books, but with a very meagre income for current expenses. Mr. Putnam organized the Minneapolis Public Library, as a free circulating library, with branches and delivery stations, under the control of and supported by the city authorities. By the issue of bonds and private subscription, and the income from current taxes, the library board bought a site and erected a building costing nearly \$400,000, which ranks as one of the best equipped of American library buildings. The old Athenæum was merged in the new library and the aggregate income of the joint libraries has been from \$50,000 to \$75,000 per annum. During the construction of the building Mr. Putnam was engaged in purchasing books, going abroad for that purpose, and at the end of the seven years of his administration he had added about 50,000 volumes to the 12,000 originally possessed by the Athenæum, while the library had grown to be the fifth in the United States in point of circulation. In December, 1891, Mr. Putnam resigned his position and came to Boston, where he has since practised law. He married Miss Elizabeth Munroe, of Cambridge, where he resides. Mr. Putnam's appointment was a decided surprise. It is said that he was first mentioned in connection with the headship of the Boston Public

Library in a letter to the trustees from State Librarian Tillinghast, dated Jan. 18. He was unanimously chosen at a fully attended trustees' meeting, and entered upon his new duties on February 11, at a salary of \$5000 a year.

SCOTT, Dr. J. L., has been appointed state librarian of Wisconsin.

WINCHESTER, G. F., librarian of the Paterson (N. J.) Free Public Library, is ill with nervous prostration, the result of mental strain and overwork.

WIXSON, Mrs. Helen M., has been appointed state librarian of Colorado.

Cataloging and Classification.

The BOSTON P. L. BULLETIN for January continues its chronological index to historical fiction, covering Switzerland and the Netherlands, including Holland and Flanders. The special lists in this number relate to Roads, and to Corea, Japan, and China; as usual they are carefully classified and very full — bibliographic rather than library lists. There is also a list of books for exchange and sale by the trustees. The usual historical appendix consists of a letter from John Wiswall to George Rigby (1638); 11 views of the north end of Boston, and a panoramic view of Haymarket Square and its neighborhood — all with historical notes.

The DENVER P. L. has issued a small eight-page list of "books on science teaching, with some on science and scientific men."

DES MOINES (*La*) P. L. Catalog: first supplement, 1894. 138 p. l. O. cl.

Catalogs 4500 v., including all books not given in the catalog of 1892, excepting government documents. Follows style of former catalog, *i. e.*, books are separated in three divisions — reference, general circulating, juvenile. Dictionary arrangement. Fiction is given under subject heading only; thus "Black, Wm." appears in proper alphabetic order, with only the reference "*see* fiction." "All books except fiction have a class number, which should be added to author and title when making out list of books. Fiction has no number and may be called for by author and title only." Short titles; full names are not generally given; dates, but no imprint.

DREXEL INSTITUTE L., *Philadelphia*. Reference lists, no. 2, January, 1895. Music. 8 p.

An excellent list, classed under the general literature of the subject, its history, theory, fiction, etc.; the various branches — as dramatic music, vocal music, symphonies, instruments, pianoforte; and biographies, individual and collected, of musicians.

MONTCLAIR (*N. J.*) F. P. L. Finding-list of fiction. October, 1894. 26 p. O.

Printed by the linotype method; a title-a-line author and title list; no imprint; entries are generally made under well-known pseudonyms.

PRATT INSTITUTE (*Brooklyn, N. Y.*) F. L. Bulletin no. 10: Finding-list of works in the German language. January, 1895. 30 p. O.

The PROVIDENCE (*R. I.*) P. L. has begun the publication of a *Monthly bulletin*, in which Mr. Foster again resumes his valuable "monthly reference-lists." This is welcome news to librarians, to whom these lists, issued for some years in connection with the JOURNAL, were ever among the most useful of bibliographic aids. The *Bulletin* containing the lists is sold at the subscription price of 50 c. yearly. In the first (January) number the reference-lists cover Oliver Wendell Holmes, the Korean war, and Buddhism, being, in their present form, says Mr. Foster, "a continuation on an enlarged scale" of the original series. It is unnecessary to dilate *in extenso* on the usefulness and value of these lists. We extend them a hearty welcome and best wishes for a long life.

The SALEM (*Mass.*) P. L. BULLETIN for January devotes its usual "special reading list" to Ancient Greece; the literature of Grecian history, life, art, religion and literature is excellently selected and arranged.

The SPRINGFIELD (*Mass.*) LIBRARY BULLETIN for January has a short biographical sketch of Robert Louis Stevenson and a list of his books contained in the library; also a good "list of books relating to the American Revolution."

FULL NAMES.

The following are supplied by Harvard College Library:

Bardeen, C. W: (Teaching as a business for men);

Barrows, Walter Bradford (The English sparrow in North America);

Gerson, Felix Napoleon (Some verses);

Hopkins, W: J: (Telephone lines and their properties);

Howe, S: H: (A brief memoir of the life of John F. Slater);

Mally, F: W: (Report on the boll worm of cotton);

McElroy, Karl (Thayer) Pomeroy (Canned vegetables);

Merrill, Earle Abbott (Reference-book of tables and formulas for electric street railway engineers);

Mielziner, Moses (Introduction to the Talmud);

Nichols, E: West (Analytic geometry);

Peabody, Cecil Hobart, and Miller, E: Furber (Notes on steam-boilers);

Pickard, S: T: (Life and letters of John Greenleaf Whittier);

Rand, Addison Crittenden (The uses of compressed air);

Rankin, Francis Huntington (Hygiene of childhood);

Searles, W: H: (Field engineering);

Weaver, W: Dixon, *editor* (Standard tables for electric wiremen, by C: M: Davis);

Wedderburn, Alexander J: (A compilation of the pharmacy and drug laws of the several states and territories);

Wickes, T: H:, *joint-author* (The strike at Pullman).

Bibliography.

ATKINSON, G: Francis. The study of the biology of ferns by the collection method. N. Y., Macmillan & Co., 1894. 12 + 134 p. 8°. A bibliography covers p. 129-132.

BEVAN, Wilson Lloyd. Sir William Petty: a study in English economic literature. Publications of American Economic Association, v. 9, no. 4, 1894. 112 p. O.

Contains a short "bibliography of the printed works of Sir William Petty."

BURSTALL, S. A. The education of girls in the United States. London, Swan Sonnenschein, 1894. 12 + 204 p. sm. 8°.

Contains an 8-p. bibliography.

COBHAM, C. D. An attempt at a bibliography of Cyprus. 3d ed. Nicosia, Cyprus, 1894. 40 p. 8°, 3 fr.

FILON, A. Mérimée et ses amis; avec une bibliographie des oeuvres complètes de Mérimée, par le V^{te} de Spoelberch de Lovenjoul. Paris, Hachette, 1894. 8°, 3.50 fr.

The FOLK-LORE SOCIETY have decided to expedite as far as possible the preparation of the English "Bibliography of folk-lore," which is being compiled by the society. It is to be one of the publications for 1897.

GEORGE, C., Schlagwort-Katalog. Verzeichniss der Bücher und Landkarten in sachlicher Anordnung. Band 2: 1888-92. Lieferung 7. Hannover, Cruse. 193-224 p. 8°, 1.30 m.

A BIBLIOGRAPHY of the literature of Gloucestershire is being prepared by F. A. Hyett and Rev. W. Bazeley, honorary secretary of the Bristol and Gloucestershire Archaeological Society, of England. The book is divided into publications relating to the whole county, those concerned with the Forest of Dean, those relating to parishes and towns in the county, and those relating to the city of Bristol. An index of authors, a list of local printers, and a bibliography of the Rowley controversy are to be added. The first volume will be ready early this year.

HUBER, J. Ch. Bibliographie der klinischen Helminthologie. Heft 7. u. 8: Dracunculus Persarum Kämpfer, Filaria sanguinis hominis Lewis und Trematoden. München, J. F. Lehmann. 8°, 3.60 m.

JONES, M. Katherine. Bibliography of college, university, and social settlements. [Boston, 1894.] 19 p. 12°.

LEGRAND, E. Bibliographie hellénique ou description raisonnée des ouvrages publiés par des Grecs au XVII^e siècle. v. 1 et 2. Paris, Picard & fils, 1894. 14 + 514 + 532 p.

8°. 200 numbered copies. For the four v., to subscribers, 75 fr.

LVLY, J: Endymion, the man in the moon; ed. with notes, bibliography and biographical introd., by G. P. Baker. N. Y., Holt, 1894. c. 196+109 p. S. (English readings.) bds., 85 c.

SUDHOFF, K. Versuch einer Kritik der Echtheit der Paracelsischen Schriften. Band 1: Bibliographia Paracelsica. Besprechung der unter Theophrast von Hohenheims Namen 1527-1893 erschienenen Druckschriften. Berlin, G. Reimer. 722 p. 8°. 18 m.

THE UNIVERSITY of Leyden has undertaken the task of issuing a bibliographical catalog of all the works of its professors, from the date of its foundation, compiled by L. D. Petit, the university librarian, and to be published by S. C. Van Doesburgh. It will be issued in five volumes, each consisting of four or five parts, and will extend over about six years. The first part, which is just published, is devoted to the professors of the theological faculty, for the period between 1575 and 1619.

WILLEY, Arthur. Amphioxus and the ancestry of the vertebrates. N. Y., Macmillan & Co., 1894. 8°. (Columbia Univ. biological ser., no. 2.) net, \$2.50.

Contains a 15-p. bibliography.

Anonymous and Pseudonyms.

Alyn Yates Keith, ps. of the wife of Governor Morris, of Connecticut, author of "A spinster's leaflets" and "A hilltop summer."—*Best. Lit. World*.

Chaperoned, published in Cassell's "Unknown library," is by Albert Ulmann. The second edition bears his name on the title-page.

A correction. Cushing, W: Initials and pseudonyms. [1st series.] p. 138, col. 1. Investigator. Samuel Wheeler. The triangle. For Wheeler read Whelpley.—J: C. ROWELL.

Heclawa.—ps. of A. L. Artman Himmelwright, in "In the heart of the Bitter-Root Mountains: story of the Carlin hunting party," pub., 1895, by Putnam.—A. A. J.

Ian Maclaren, ps. of Rev. J. Maclaren Watson, author of "Beside the bonnie brier bush," pub. by Dodd, Mead & Co., 1894. He is minister of a Presbyterian church in Liverpool.—*N. Y. Tribune*, N. 11.

Jane Smiley, author of the Christmas and Easter stories in *Harper's Young People*, is, according to C. E. L. Wingate in the *Critic*, the daughter of the late John Boyle O'Reilly.

Jean Kincaid, ps. of Mrs. Estelle M. H. Mer-

rill, ed. of *New England Kitchen Magazine*, and a frequent newspaper correspondent.

Josephine Clifford, author of "Overland Tales," 1877; and "Another Juanita," 1894, is the nom de plume of Josephine Clifford McCrackin.—J. C. ROWELL.

Julie K. Wetherill, ps. of Mrs. Marion Baker, of the *New Orleans Times-Democrat*.

M. E. Francis, ps. of Mrs. Francis Blundell, made up from her maiden name, M. E. Sweetman, and from her husband's Christian name. She is author of "In a North Country village," pub. by Little, Brown & Co. in 1893, and "The story of Dan," recently pub. by Houghton.

Magdalen Brooke. "Magdalen Brooke" who wrote "The story of Eleanor Lambert," in the *Pseudonym Library* is Miss Harriet M. Capes.—*The Bookman*.

A sunless heart, published anonymously in London by Ward, Lock & Bowden, is by Miss Edith Johnstone.—*Lond. Lit. World*, S. 17.

Wenona Gilman, ps. of Mrs. Florence Schoeffel, author of numerous novels. Mrs. Schoeffel has recently brought suit against the *Outing* Company, of New York, for alleged fraudulent publication of her novel, "Saddle and sentiment," and the real name is thus made public.

Humors and Blunders.

At a Massachusetts library recently, inquiry for a book called "Story of a desert island" gradually developed or changed to "Story of a desert island off the coast of Maine," and turned out at last to be Crawford's "Love in idleness; a story of Bar Harbor"!

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A FRESHMAN of one of the leading universities approached the delivery-desk of a reference library, handed the attendant a memorandum, and asked to be allowed to read the periodical named. His slip called for: "Ibid, vol. 10, page 128." Another applicant called for the "U. S. Coast Survey Report for the State of New Jersey of the U. S. Fish Commission," and would take nothing else.—A. R.

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Menzel's Germany, v. 1. Bohn.
Fall of Napoleon, by Mitchell, v. 3. 1846.

O. H., P. O. Box 943, N. Y.
Library Journal, August, 1894.

Jersey City (N. J.) Free Public Lib.
Smithsonian Miscellaneous Collections, v. 28-36.
Library Co. of Phila., Locust and Juniper Sts., Phila.

Broughton's Second Thoughts. N. Y., 1880.
Public Library, Cleveland, O.
N. Y. Independent for Sept. 29, Dec. 22, 29, 1892; April 26, '94.

Library of Union Club, 1 W. 21st St., N. Y.
Dickeson's American Numismatical Manual of Currency; or, Money of the Aborigines, etc. Phila., 1859.

Univ. of Vermont Lib., Burlington, Vt.
Darlington, Amer. Weeds and Useful Plants. N. Y., 1860.

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The New York Times, 1859 to the present.

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